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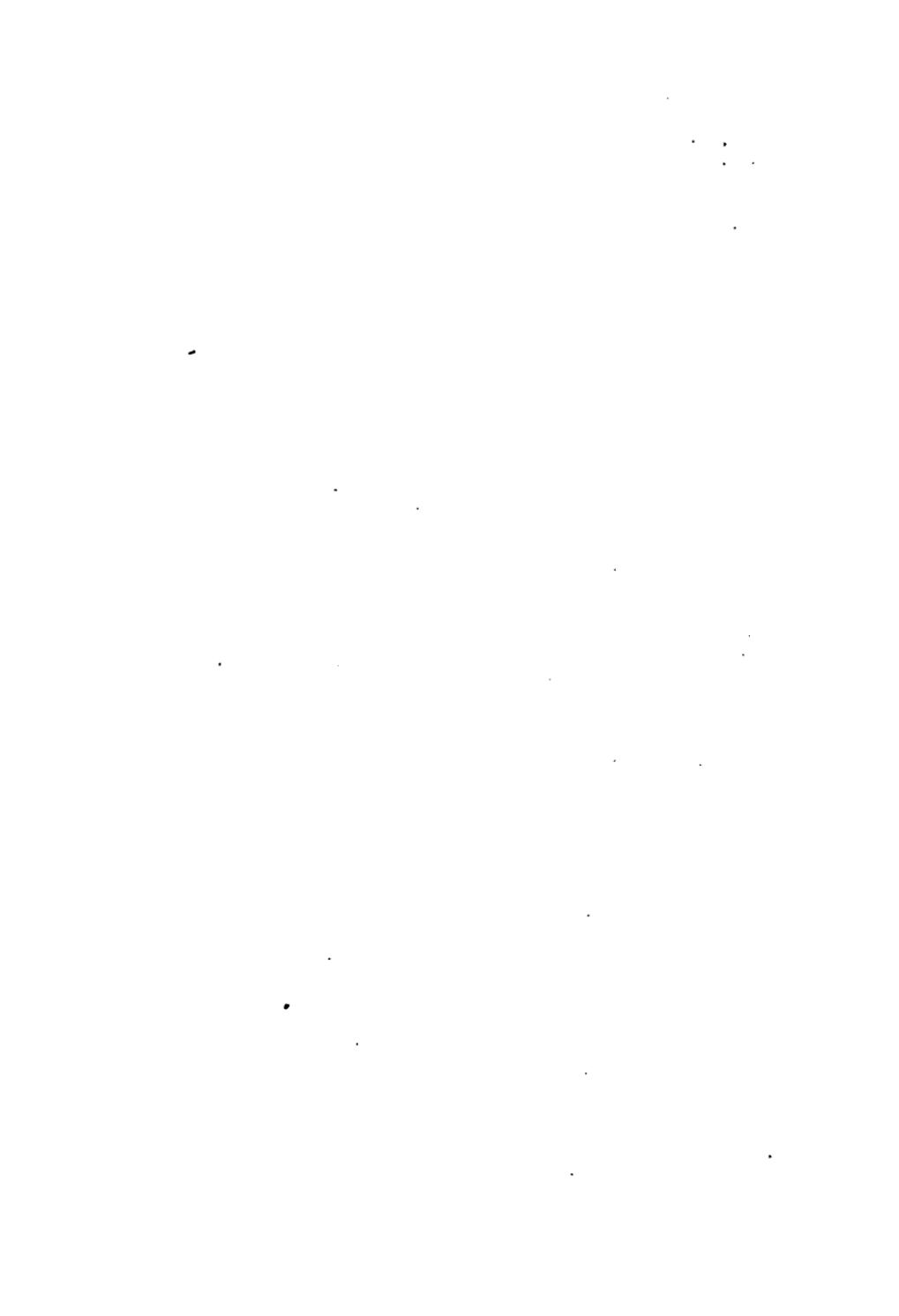
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1970



CHAMBERS'S ENGLISH READERS

CHAMBERS'S
ENGLISH READERS

BOOK III.

EDITED BY

J. M. D. MEIKLEJOHN, M.A.

PROFESSOR OF EDUCATION IN THE UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS



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P R E F A C E.

THE THIRD Book contains longer lessons than the Second Book, more difficult words, and more literary phrases. But care has been taken that the style should at the same time be so clear, that the sentences may be read without strain. For this reason also, the sentences are in general short; and the sense of them may be caught at once without too great effort. It has often been complained that sprightly conversations were not introduced into Reading-books. It may be doubted whether the dramatic form can always be made available in schools; but there must always be a necessity for matter which naturally promotes lively reading. This necessity has been recognised and amply provided for in this Third Book. For this and other reasons, it will probably be found that children who have been judiciously carried through this Book will have acquired good habits of *expressive reading*.

The Exercises, which have been carefully thought out, are so contrived as to give the pupils views of the functions of *nouns*, *verbs*, and *adjectives* from different stand-points; and explanations of literary phrases have not been forgotten.

EDINBURGH, November 1878.

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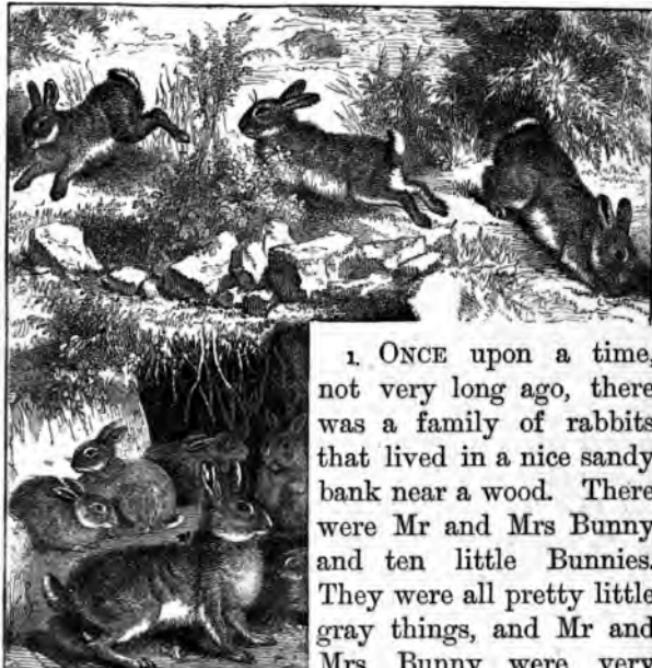
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CHAMBERS'S
ENGLISH READERS.
BOOK III.

TOMASSIE AND THE RABBITS.*

PART I.



1. ONCE upon a time, not very long ago, there was a family of rabbits that lived in a nice sandy bank near a wood. There were Mr and Mrs Bunny and ten little Bunnies. They were all pretty little gray things, and Mr and Mrs Bunny were very

* This story may be considered too little advanced for the Third Standard; but it is inserted in this book for the purpose of giving practice in bright, lively reading, which can only be had where the subject is interesting and the style easy.

proud of them; but they kept them in good order, and when they were naughty, would smack them very hard. The eldest one's name was Flopsy; she was a good little rabbit, with a serious face and long, soft ears; she tried very hard to keep her brothers and sisters in order, but they were rather mischievous.

2 One evening Papa and Mamma Bunny came home with very sad faces, and said to all the little rabbits who were playing in front of their sandy hole: 'That dreadful Mr Fox on the other side of the hill has quarrelled with his brother who has his hole near him, and is coming to live in our bank.'

3 'I heard him say so himself,' said Papa Bunny. 'I was hiding in the long grass, and heard him say: "The rabbits have a nice big hole there, so I will eat them up, and live in their hole, which I can soon make larger."

Mamma Bunny began to sob, and all the little rabbits sat up in a circle round her. They looked at her, then at each other, and then all burst out crying too.

4. 'Leave off crying at once,' said Papa Bunny; so Mrs Bunny gave one last long sob, and then stopped; while Flopsy dried her eyes on her little paws, and then went round with a handful of grass, and rubbed all the other little rabbits' eyes and noses until they were quite dry, though they looked very red for a long time afterwards.

5 *Papa Bunny said he must go away for a*

few days to find a new sandy place, where they could make a home, away from the fox; and Mrs Bunny said she should go with him to see that he chose a nice sunny bank.

'So mind, Flopsy,' she said, 'that you take great care of the little ones, and shut the house up every night to prevent Mr Fox getting in; and now you had better all go to bed, as we have to pack up some things, and be off early in the morning.'

6. 'May we not have one more race?' said Ruffy, who was rather a tiresome little rabbit.

'I don't want to go to bed,' said Bobtail, as Flopsy took him by the paw, and he threw himself down on the ground and wouldn't move.

'Go at once,' said Papa Bunny, taking up a long switch and coming towards them. 7. That was quite enough. Off they scampered, and one after another little tail bobbed out of sight down the hole. Flopsy put them all to bed, and then helped Mr and Mrs Bunny to pack. They left home very early the next morning, leaving all the little rabbits, except Flopsy, snoring. 8. She was up and bustling about, though she had two great tears in her big brown eyes, for she was very sorry Papa and Mamma Bunny were going away. She picked their breakfast for them, and gave them their little bags when they were ready to start. Besides which, Papa Bunny had a thick walking-stick and Mamma Bunny a gingham umbrella. 9. Presently Ruffy woke up and jumped out of bed. He ran and pulled all

the bedclothes off the others, which of course woke them up at once.

‘It’s the fox!’ cried little Sandy, who was frightened.

‘No, no!’ said Flopsy, coming in with a big white apron on. ‘It’s only Ruffy, who’s a naughty rabbit.’

10. It was a lovely morning; the ground was covered with sweet sparkling dew, and the sunbeams were dancing about on the dew, the herbs, and the flowers. The rabbits always said good-morning to the sun, for he was a very warm friend of theirs, and they loved to sit up on their hind-legs and try to look at him; but he was so bright they could never do that, so they had to be contented with feeling his warmth on their heads and backs.

11. They loved the silvery moon too, and they could look at her, and had many a game in the summer evenings under her beams. They were now playing at hide-and-seek, leap-frog, and all sorts of games, until breakfast-time, when all the little rabbits except Bobtail went into breakfast; but he stayed outside to practise two things—one called the inverted column, which was standing on his head; and the other was called the Katherine-wheel, which was turning head over heels as fast as he could. 12. He went on turning over and over until he was quite giddy, and then his heels went whack up against something soft, and that soft thing was Tomassie.

13. Now Tomassie was a great black *cat*, who *always wore a soft black coat, a white shirt, black*

knickerbockers, and white stockings. Luckily for Bobtail he was a friend of the family's, for any other cat would have eaten him up. But Tomassie was not like any other cat you ever saw, as we shall see by-and-by.

DICTION—Learn to write out :

That dreadful Mr Fox on the other side of the hill has quarrelled with his brother who has his hole near him, and is coming to live in our bank.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Naughty	Tiresome	Silvery	Sparkling
Serious	Scampered	Column	Breakfast
Crying	Gingham	Knickerbockers	Stockings

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 12 and 13.

3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Rabbits ; wood ; ears ; brothers ; fox ; father ; mother ; bank ; tail ; eyes ; dew ; flowers ; moon ; cat.*

4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Rabbits ; brothers ; sisters ; Mr Fox ; Mr Bunny ; Mrs Bunny ; Flopsy ; Sandy ; Ruffy ; Bobtail ; cat.*

5. Change the following nouns into adjectives : *Sand ; wood ; pride ; brother ; play ; sun ; home ; silver ; friend.*

6. Make nouns of the following adjectives and verbs : *Proud ; serious ; soft ; long ; live ; warm ; gentle ; practise.*



LUCY GRAY.

Com'rade, companion.

Blithe, cheerful and light-hearted.

Min'ster, cathedral.

Disperse', scatter.

Plied, went on with.

Maintain', declare and insist upon.

1. No mate, no comrade, Lucy knew:

She dwelt on a wide moor,
The sweetest thing that ever
grew
Beside a cottage door.

2. You yet may spy the fawn at play,

The hare upon the green;
But the sweet face of Lucy Gray
Will never more be seen.

3. 'To-night will be a stormy night:

You to the town must go;
And take a lantern, child, to light
Your mother through the snow.'



4. 'That, father, will I gladly do ;
 'Tis scarcely afternoon—
The minster clock has just struck two,
 And yonder is the moon.'

5. At this the father raised his hook,
 And snapped a fagot band ;
He plied his work, and Lucy took
 The lantern in her hand.

6. Not blither is the mountain roe ;
 With many a wanton stroke
Her feet disperse the powdery snow,
 That rises up like smoke.

7. The storm came on before its time ;
 She wandered up and down,
And many a hill did Lucy climb,
 But never reached the town.

8. The wretched parents all that night
 Went shouting far and wide ;
But there was neither sound nor sight
 To serve them for a guide.

9. At day-break on a hill they stood,
 That overlooked the moor ;
And thence they saw the bridge of wood
 A furlong from their door.

10. They wept ; and, turning homeward, cried,
 '*In heaven we all shall meet*'—

When in the snow the mother spied
The print of Lucy's feet !

11. Then downwards from the steep hill's edge
They tracked the foot-marks small ;
And through the broken hawthorn hedge,
And by the long stone-wall ;
12. And then an open field they crossed—
The marks were still the same ;
They tracked them on, nor ever lost,
And to the bridge they came.
13. They followed from the snowy bank
Those footmarks one by one,
Into the middle of the plank—
And further there were none !
14. Yet some maintain that to this day
She is a living child ;
That you may see sweet Lucy Gray
Upon the lonesome wild.

Wordsworth.

QUESTIONS.—1. Where did Lucy Gray live ? 2. What did her father tell her to do one winter afternoon ? 3. What was she to take with her ? 4. What o'clock was it ? 5. What was the father doing at the time ? 6. How did the snow look as Lucy stepped along ? 7. When did Lucy get to the town ? 8. Who sought for her ? 9. What guided them in their search ? 10. Where were they standing at day-break ? 11. What did they see from there ? 12. What did they say when they turned homeward ? 13. What did the mother espy in the snow ? **14. Where did they track the foot-marks ?** 15. Up to what

point? 16. Where did they miss them? 17. What must have happened? 18. What do some maintain in spite of all this?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words:

Comrade	Snapped	Wretched	Followed
Cottage	Powdery	Hawthorn	Maintain

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in verses 12, 13, and 14.

3. Add adjectives to the following nouns: *Moor*; *door*; *hedge*; *face*; *town*; *night*; *wall*; *clock*; *moon*; *work*; *snow*; *bank*; *hill*; *ros*; *bridge*; *smoke*.

4. Add verbs to the following nouns: *Girl*; *father*; *parents*; *bridge*; *fawn*; *hare*; *child*.

5. Make verbs out of the following nouns and adjectives: *Stroke*; *print*; *sweet*; *white*.

6. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs: *Trace*; *dwell*; *speak*; *grow*; *break*; *strike*; *wander*; *see*; *cross*; *serve*; *open*.

7. Explain the following phrases: (1) Lucy had no mate nor comrade. (2) The father plied his work. (3) There was neither sound nor sight to serve them for a guide. (4) Some maintain that to this day she is a living child.





THE COW AND THE OX.

Inoffens'ive, harmless.
Approached', gone near.

Deter'mined, made up his mind.
Inva'riably, without change.

1. Although the cow is not employed in our country for drawing heavy weights or for riding upon, it is an animal of great importance. In very many countries, such as the Cape of Good Hope, oxen are used for drawing carts; whilst even in England they are sometimes put to the plough; and in some parts of Africa the people go so far as to ride upon them. In the above *picture* *six oxen* are seen drawing a waggon, the

owner of which is riding before, on horseback.

2 These are not the things, however, for which the cow is generally valued. The flesh of the cow and ox is one of the most excellent of meats. We call the flesh of the fully-grown animal 'beef,' and that of the calf is termed 'veal.' The milk of the cow is not only used all over the world as a refreshing and nourishing drink; but we obtain from it two articles which are hardly less widely used—namely, *butter* and *cheese*. 3 The skin of the ox and cow is made into *leather*; the hoofs are used for making *glue*; the horns are cut into *combs*; and the hair is mixed with the *plaster* that we put upon the walls of our houses. The bones too are turned to various uses. Thus the farmer, the saddler, the shoemaker, the carpenter, the bookbinder, the turner, the builder, and the bricklayer are all indebted to these animals.

4 Every one knows what an ox looks like; but there is a great difference between different kinds of oxen and cows. Some of them have short horns, some have very long ones, and some have none at all. Some are very big, fat, and quiet; others are small, rough-haired, and active. There are only one or two places in Great Britain where wild cattle still live, and it is not safe for strangers to go near them. The wild white cattle of Chillingham are well known. 5 The ordinary cow, however, is a very tame and inoffensive animal, and, indeed, is very affectionate to those who treat it kindly, and is also very intelligent. On the other hand, the bull is always a more or less

bad-tempered and fierce animal, and it is never quite safe to be approached even by those whom it knows best. 6. It runs much faster than one would imagine, and one should always be very cautious in crossing a field in which a bull is kept. An amusing story is told of the effect of music in quieting an angry bull who had caught a poor fiddler in his field. 7. The fiddler had been out playing at a party, and was returning home early in the morning, his shortest road lying across a field in which a well-known and savage bull was kept. The night was light, and the fiddler thought that the bull was sure to be asleep, so he determined to run the risk of crossing. 8. Unfortunately the bull was awake, and made a fierce charge upon the musician before he had got half-way across. Finding that he had no chance of escaping by speed of foot or by climbing a tree, the poor fellow thought he would try the effect of music, so he got behind a bush and began to play a lively tune on his fiddle. 9. To his delight, the advancing bull at once stood still, and appeared to listen with the greatest pleasure. After a while, the fiddler's arm began to get tired, and as the bull kept quite quiet, he thought he would make a run for it. 10. No sooner had he started, however, than the bull made a rush for him, and he had nothing for it but to return to his bush and to strike up his tune again, when his enemy became again immediately quiet. After repeated attempts of this kind, invariably ending in the ~~same~~ way, the fiddler made up his mind that he

would just have to go on playing all night; which he did, until some people passing by saw him, and rescued him from his dangerous position.

11. Wild cattle always have horns; and, unlike deer, they never shed them. In Africa, the ox is used for riding. The horns of the riding ox are of great length, and sharply pointed; and an ox has been known to keep a lion at bay with them for a whole night. 12. The zebu of India is harnessed to carriages and ploughs. It is also used for riding, and will carry a man for fifteen hours a day, at the rate of five or six miles an hour. Buffaloes are the wild cattle of Southern Europe, North Africa, and India; bisons are the wild cattle of North America.

SUMMARY.

1. The cow, like the horse, is a 'hoofed' animal. Each of the four feet has two big toes, which are covered by flat hoofs, upon which the beast walks. Behind each foot there are two little toes, which are of no use in walking, as they do not touch the ground. 2. The cow 'ruminates' or 'chews the cud.' That is to say, she first swallows the grass on which she feeds without chewing it; and then, when she has filled her capacious stomach, she lies down on the grass, and brings her food back bit by bit to her mouth, and chews it, so as to render it fit to be swallowed again. 3. All cows have one pair of horns, except a few tame kinds, which are termed polled, and have no horns. The horns consist of a horny sheath surrounding a piece of bone which grows out of the forehead, and the animal keeps the same pair of horns throughout her life. 4. The cow is principally of service to man as supplying him with meat and with milk. Out of the milk we make butter and cheese; and the hides, horns, and hoofs of the cow are also used for many purposes. The cow

is closely related to the buffaloes of Africa and India, and the bisons of North America and Asia.

QUESTIONS.—1. What is the cow sometimes made to draw? 2. What is the flesh of the cow called? 3. Of the calf? 4. What is useful in it besides its flesh? 5. What do we make of milk? 6. What do we make of the cow's skin? 7. Of its hoofs? 8. Of its horns? 9. What do we do with its hair? 10. Tell me four of the trades that the cow supplies with something. 11. Tell me four more. 12. Where are wild cattle still kept in England? 13. Tell the story of the fiddler and the bull. 14. Where is the ox used for riding on? 15. Are the horns of the African ox long or short? 16. What beast of prey has been kept off with them? 17. What is the ox of India called? 18. How long can it carry a man in a day? 19. What are the wild cattle of Africa called? 20. Of North America?

DICTION.—Learn to write out :

The cow gives milk, butter, and cheese; and it provides us with beef, leather, glue, horn, bones, and hair for mixing with mortar.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Creature	Saddler	Ordinary	Unfortunately
Valued	Carpenter	Approached	Immediately
Excellent	Difference		

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 11 and 12.

3. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Weight; life; use; beef; leather; glue; horn; music; anger; danger; night.*

4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Ride; weigh; useful; scarce; make; bind; build; turn; different; long; fat; active; safe; strange; amuse; keep; appear; please; know.*

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) The bull made a charge on the musician. (2) His repeated attempts invariably ended in the same way. (3) He was rescued from his dangerous position. (4) An African ox can keep a lion at bay with his *horns*.

A NAIL WANTING; OR, A STITCH IN TIME SAVES NINE.

Rent, money paid to the owner for the right of living in a house or on a farm.	Smith'y, a blacksmith's shop.
Dismount'ing, getting down off a horse.	Dis'located, put out of joint. Endure', bear, suffer. Negle'cts, omitting to do what is wanted.

1. Paul saddled his horse to ride to the neighbouring town, with the half-year's rent of his farm. As he mounted, he saw that a nail of one of the horse's shoes was wanting. 'It is not worth the trouble of dismounting,' said he; 'the want of a nail will not hinder my horse on the journey.' So he rode off. 2. He had gone three miles when he saw that the horse had lost the shoe that wanted the nail. 'I might be able,' said he, 'to get a shoe put on at the neighbouring smithy: but no, I shall lose too much time, my horse will reach the town quite easily with three shoes.'

3. Farther on, a great thorn pricked the foot of the horse, sorely wounding it. 'I shall be able,' said Paul, 'to dress the wound when I reach the town; it is only a mile distant.'

4. A little after, the horse took a false step, and fell. Paul was thrown with great violence, and had his arm dislocated at the shoulder.

5. He was taken to a house near by, where he lay for ten days unable to move. His horse was much hurt and of little use afterwards. Paul lost his time, had to spend a good sum of money, and *to endure much suffering.* 6. 'All this,' said he,

'has come of those little neglects. If I had put a nail in my horse's shoe, it would not have been lost; if I had got a shoe put on, the horse's foot would not have been wounded, it had not stumbled and fallen, nor should I have been lying here like a log.'

From the French.

QUESTIONS.—1. What was Paul taking with him to the neighbouring town? 2. What did he see was wanting when he mounted his horse? 3. Why did he think it was not worth while to put the matter right before he started? 4. What happened when he had ridden three miles? 5. What happened to the horse's foot in consequence of the loss of the shoe? 6. How did Paul get his shoulder dislocated? 7. In what ways did he suffer for his want of care and forethought? 8. What reflections did he make afterwards?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Saddled	Journey	Dislocated
Neighbouring	Smithy	Shoulder
Dismounting	Violence	Stumbled

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in paragraph 1.
3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Horse*; *nail*; *journey*; *thorn*; *violence*; *neglects*.
4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Horse*; *shoe*; *foot*; *town*; *shoulder*; *money*; *time*.
5. Explain the following sentences : (1) With the half-year's rent of his farm. (2) The horse had lost the shoe that wanted the nail. (3) All this has come of those little neglects





THE SPRING WALK.

1. We had a pleasant walk to-day
Over the meadows and far away,
Across the bridge, by the water-mill,
By the wood-side, and up the hill;
And if you listen to what I say,
I'll tell you what we saw to-day.
2. Amid a hedge, where the first leaves
Were peeping from their sheaths so sly,
We saw four eggs within a nest,
And they were blue as the summer sky.
3. An elder-branch dipped in the brook;
We wondered why it moved, and found

A silken-haired smooth water-rat
Nibbling, and swimming round and round.

4. Where daisies opened to the sun,
In a broad meadow, green and white,
The lambs were racing eagerly—
We never saw a prettier sight.

5. We saw upon the shady banks
Long rows of golden flowers shine,
And first mistook for buttercups
The star-shaped yellow celandine.

6. Anemonës and primroses,
And the blue violets of spring,
We found, while listening by a hedge
To hear a merry ploughman sing.

7. And from the earth the plough turned up,
There came a sweet refreshing smell,
Such as the lily of the vale
Sends forth from many a woodland dell.

8. We saw the yellow wall-flower wave
Upon a mouldering castle wall,
And then we watched the busy rooks
Among the ancient elm-trees tall.

9. And leaning from the old stone bridge,
Below we saw our shadows lie,
And through the gloomy arches watched
The swift and fearless swallows fly.

10. We heard the speckled-breasted lark
As it sang somewhere out of sight,

And tried to find it, but the sky
Was filled with haze of dazzling light.

11. Were I to tell you all we saw,
I'm sure that it would take me hours;
For the whole landscape was alive
With bees, and birds, and buds, and
flowers.

T. Miller.

DICTATION.—Learn to write the verse :

*Were I to tell you all we saw,
I'm sure that it would take me hours;
For the whole landscape was alive
With bees, and birds, and buds, and flowers.*

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Pleasant	Nibbling	Celandine	Mouldering
Meadows	Swimming	Anemones	Dazzling
Sheaths	Eagerly	Refreshing	Pheasant

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in the last two verses.

3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Walk ; meadows ; bridge ; water-mill ; eggs ; nest ; rat ; clouds ; lambs ; orchards ; flowers ; bees ; violets ; ploughman ; rooks ; swallow.*

4. Add verbs to the following : *Water-rat ; birds ; bees ; lambs ; rooks ; ploughman.*

5. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Hill ; leaf ; wonder ; silk ; shade ; earth ; stone ; light ; youth ; flower.*

6. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Please ; sheathe ; open ; merry ; sweet ; watch ; shade ; sing ; pleasant ; live.*





TOMASSIE AND THE RABBITS.

PART II.

1. Tomassie the cat was born in a gentleman's house in the neighbourhood of the bank where the Bunnies lived. And now I will tell you how he came to know the rabbits.

As Tomassie grew big, he began to feel very fierce, and thought: 'I shall go and see what the world is like;' so he bought a gun, and off he went to live in the woods. One day, feeling very fat and lazy, he lay in the sun by the side of a hedge, and there he saw Flopsy. She was crying because it was tea-time, and all her naughty little brothers and sisters had run away from her. So *Tomassie said*: 'My mother eats rabbits; but I

like you ; so we'll be friends.' Then they found all the little rabbits, and Tomassie promised to go and see them next day. 2. Now, when he felt Bobtail come up plump against him, he went 'Ugh ! ugh !' for he had just worried a great rat, and did not like to be knocked about.

'Ah ! Mr Tomassie, I am practising the Katherine-wheel and the inverted column.'

'Where are the others ?'

'At breakfast.'

'Then you come in too ;' and Tomassie caught Bobtail by one long ear and pulled him along.

'Leave go ! You hurt me, Mr Tomassie. I'll come.'

3. So in they went ; and all the rabbits were so pleased to see Tomassie. At the top of the table sat Flopsy ; in front of her a great bowl of porridge, and a large spoon in her paw. All the little rabbits sat on high stools, with spoons in their paws, and empty basins in front of them ; but they did not get anything to eat, until Flopsy and Tomassie had been round to each, and tied a pinafore round their necks to prevent them spoiling their little brown clothes. Then Flopsy put a big spoonful of porridge flop into each basin, and they all began to eat. 4. But what was Ruffy doing ? and why had he disappeared so soon ? Sandy, who sat by his side, began to giggle, but did not like to say anything. So Flopsy got up to look ; and what do you think Ruffy had done ? The naughty rabbit *had eaten some of his porridge*, and slipped all the

rest into his pocket. Flopsy wrung her paws in despair; while Tomassie growled and said: ‘What have you done that for, you naughty rabbit?’

‘It’s for my friend, the poor old blind mole,’ said Ruffy. ‘I’m not greedy; and he likes porridge. It’s a change, instead of always eating worms.’

5. But Flopsy was very cross, and said: ‘He ought to know better, and set his brothers and sisters a better example.’ Then she turned his pocket inside out. It was such a nasty greasy little pocket, and full of all sorts of other things besides. Next she put him in the corner with his face to the wall, and would not let him have any more breakfast. So Ruffy cried: ‘Boo! boo! boo! I’ll never be naughty any more.’

‘Not till next time, I daresay,’ Tomassie said.

6. Now when breakfast was over, he and Flopsy washed up the porridge-bowls, and put them neatly away.

And so they went on talking as happily as possible, and Tomassie promised to stay with the rabbits until Papa and Mamma Bunny returned; for Flopsy said: ‘What shall we do if the fox comes? If you are here, you can shoot him with your great gun.’ So Tomassie stayed.

7. When the rabbits had all had their dinner, they ran out to play, but presently came rushing in, tumbling one over another, their faces white with fear, and their long ears straight on end.

‘O Tomassie! Flopsy! the fox, the fox.’

‘Where? where?’ cried Flopsy.

'Coming through the wood,' they cried with their little hearts beating as if they would thump out of their bodies. 8. Tomassie took up his gun, and put a great real cartridge in it. Then he went to the door, while all the little rabbits began to put up the shutters. Yes, sure enough, there came the old fox. Tomassie could see his red coat shining out from amongst the green grass and flowers, as he sauntered through the wood, towards the rabbits' sunny bank. Tomassie cocked his gun, and waited. 9. Nearer and nearer came the fox, creeping along from bush to bush, birds and insects all flying before him, as he moved. When he got very near he stopped, and Tomassie could see his great green eyes shining through the bushes. He was waiting for a rabbit to come out, that he might catch him and eat him; but, as we know, the rabbits were safe in their hole, and even Ruffy and Bobtail were as still as mice. 10. When he saw Tomassie he gave a low bark, and sprang towards him; but Tomassie put up his gun, and said: 'Take care, Mr Fox.'

'Come away from there, you great, ugly black cat; or I'll make you,' said the Fox.

'Don't be rude, or I'll shoot you at once,' said Tomassie.

'What business have you there? that's my hole.'

'No, it's not; it belongs to the rabbits, and I am staying with them.'

'If you stand there talking any longer, I'll eat up all the rabbits at once, and kill you.'

'Oh, oh! but you must get us first, Mr Fox.'

11. Then the fox rushed at him, shewing all his teeth; but Tomassie took good aim, and shot him right through his head. Down he fell quite dead. Then all the little Bunnies, who had given a great jump when the gun was fired off, came rushing up the hole, and there was Tomassie unhurt, with the cruel fox dead at his feet.
 12. Then they all cried for very joy, and kissed Tomassie again and again, and danced like wild Indians round the body of the fox. Next morning Mr and Mrs Bunny returned home very sad because they had not found half such a nice bank as their own; but when they heard all about Tomassie's brave deed, they were very glad that they would still be able to live in their dear old home.

DICTATION.—Learn to write out the following :

Nearer and nearer came the fox, creeping along from bush to bush, birds and insects all flying before him, as he moved.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Promised	Cartridge	Business
Inverted	Sauntered	Porridge

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 11 and 12.

3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Rabbits ; ears ; stools ; pocket ; gun ; fox ; coat ; eyes ; cartridge.*

4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Rabbits ; gun ; fox.*

5. Change the following nouns into adjectives : *Greed ; grease ; fear ; heart ; sun ; talk ; joy ; friend.*

6. Change the following adjectives and verbs into nouns : *Wash ; shoot ; happy ; white ; dead ; cruel ; practise ; great.*

HIDDEN TREASURES.

Treasure, hoarded money.
Trenched, cut deep furrows.

In their neighbourhood, near their
own vineyard.

1. A vine-dresser who lay at the point of death called his children around him and said: 'There is a treasure in our vineyard, if you will only dig for it.' 'Where?' cried they all. But the father could only say, 'Dig for it,' and died. 2. He was hardly buried when the sons began to dig with all their might for what they supposed to be gold, and raked, hoed, and trenched the vineyard over till not a spot was left that had not passed under their hands again and again. There was not a clod that was not broken to dust; the soil was all put through a sieve, and every stone in the length and breadth of the vineyard was hunted out and thrown away. But no sign of any treasure appeared, and they began to fear their father had been mocking them.

3. When next year came, however, they saw with wonder that every vine bore threefold, and that the clusters were far finer than those of any other vineyard in their neighbourhood. They then saw what their father had meant, and that the treasure was to be got only by hard work; so they dug each season from that time as they had done in search of the gold, and they found a treasure, year after year, as great as the first.

QUESTIONS.—1. What did the vine-dresser tell his children? 2. Where was the treasure to be found? 3. What did the sons set to work to do as soon as their father was dead? 4. What

was done to the clods? 5. What to the soil? 6. What to the stones? 7. Did they find the treasure they expected? 8. What happened to the vines next year? 9. What was the real treasure which their father had promised? 10. How did they work every year?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words:

Treasure	Sieve	Appeared
Hoed	Vineyard	Wonder

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in the last two sentences of the above.

3. Put adjectives before the following nouns: *Children; treasure; spot; clod; soil; stone; and vine.*

4. Explain the following phrases: (1) Lay at the point of. (2) No sign of any treasure appeared. (3) Every vine bore threefold.

5. Add verbs to the following nouns: *Vine-dresser; children; vines; treasure.*



SIGNS OF RAIN.

Span'iel, a kind of dog.	Incau'tious, rash, heed-	Quits, leaves.
Snort'ing, grunting.	less.	Odd, funny.
Kine, cows.	Vest, waistcoat.	Precip'itate, headlong.
Wings, flies.	Russ'et, reddish-brown.	Jaunt, pleasure-trip.

1. The hollow winds begin to blow,
The clouds look black, the glass is low,¹
The soot falls down,² the spaniels sleep,
And spiders from their cobwebs peep.
2. Hark! how the chairs and tables crack;
Old Betty's joints are on the rack;³

Loud quack the ducks, the peacocks cry;
 The distant hills are seeming nigh;⁴
 How restless are the snorting swine;
 The busy flies disturb the kine;
 Low o'er the grass the swallow wings;⁵
 The cricket, too, how sharp he sings;
 Puss on the hearth, with velvet paws,
 Sits, wiping o'er her whiskered jaws.

3. Through the clear stream the fishes rise,
 And nimbly catch the incautious flies;
 The frog has changed his yellow vest,⁶
 And in a russet coat is drest;
 My dog, so altered in his taste,
 Quits mutton-bones, on grass to feast.
4. And see yon rooks, how odd their flight !
 They imitate the gliding kite,⁷
 And seem precipitate to fall,
 As if they felt the piercing ball.
5. 'Twill surely rain; I see with sorrow
 Our jaunt must be put off to-morrow.

Dr Jenner.

EXPLANATIONS.—1. ‘The glass is low’—The barometer, an instrument for indicating the weight of the air, and thus for shewing what kind of weather is coming, is often called the ‘glass.’ When the mercury in the barometer is not standing at as high a level as usual, then the glass is ‘low,’ and rain may be expected. 2. ‘The soot falls down’—When the air is charged with moisture, and it is going to rain, the dry soot in the chimney attracts the moisture, and, becoming heavy, falls down. 3. ‘Old Betty’s joints are on the rack’—The ‘rack’ was an instrument of torture formerly used by cruel men, its operation being to stretch the joints and thus produce great pain. To be ‘on the rack’ means, therefore, to be in great pain.

'Old Betty' was rheumatic, and her joints hurt her when the weather was going to change. 4. 'The distant hills are seeming nigh'—Before rain, the air often becomes clear, and the mountains look nearer than usual. 5. 'Low o'er the grass the swallow wings'—On the approach of rain the swallows fly close to the ground, because the insects on which they feed do not fly so high in the air on such occasions. It is for the same reason, as stated a few lines further on, that the fishes become unusually active in catching flies just before rain comes on. 6. 'The frog has changed his yellow vest'—When it is light and sunny, the colour of the frog is bright yellow, but he becomes much browner in colour when the weather is dark and cloudy. 7. 'The gliding kite'—The 'kite' is a kind of hawk, which catches its prey by slowly sailing in circles over the ground, and then pouncing down suddenly when it sees any small animal below. When rain is coming on, the rooks have a habit of tossing and tumbling in the air.

QUESTIONS.—1. What falls down the chimney before rain ?
 2. What do spaniels do before rain ? 3. What do spiders do ?
 4. And the chairs and tables ? 5. What do the ducks do ?
 6. What cry do the peacocks make ? 7. What disturbs the kine ?
 8. What is puss doing ? 9. What change comes over the frog
 on the approach of rain ? 10. How is the dog's taste altered ?
 11. How do the rooks fly when rain is coming on ?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Cobwebs	Whiskered	Imitate
Peacocks	Incautious	Precipitate
Hearth	Russet	Piercing

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in the first eight lines.
 3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *winds* ; *ducks* ;
hills ; *cricket* ; *flies* ; *frog* ; *stream* ; *paws* ; *jaws*.
 4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *soot* ; *chairs* ; *kine* ;
grass ; *rooks* ; *dog*.
 5. Explain the following sentences : (1) The distant hills are
 seeming nigh. (2) They nimbly catch the incautious flies.
 (3) Quits mutton-bones on grass to feast. (4) Seem precipitate
to fall, as if they felt the piercing ball.

T H E D O G.

Sav'age, wild and cruel.
Asso'ciate, companion.
Sagac'ity, sense.

Assail'ant, one who attacks.
Mod'eI, the perfect pattern.
Despair', complete want of hope.

1. There is perhaps no single animal which has been more useful to man than the dog; and yet no one knows with certainty where dogs first came from, what is their native country, or how they became tame and attached themselves to their human masters. It is generally supposed that the dog is only a kind of wolf, since these two animals are really very like each other. In fact, a sheep-dog hardly differs from a wolf in appearance, except that he carries his tail more or less curled up, while the wolf's tail always hangs down. 2. What a difference there is, however, between these two animals in



St Bernard Dog.

their temper and disposition! The wolf is a savage and untamable beast of prey, feared and hated by those who live in the countries which it inhabits. On the other hand, the dog has been the friend and companion of man from the very earliest times. There is no corner of the earth, from the burning plains of Africa and India to the frozen wastes of Labrador and Greenland, to which man



Staghound.

has not been accompanied by this faithful and affectionate associate. Contented with the poorest fare, and hardly changed by even the roughest usage, the dog gives to his master all his love, his strength, his swiftness, his constant watchfulness, his courage, and his intelligence. In this respect, *all dogs are alike*, though different kinds of dogs

have very different uses. 4. The little terrier guards our houses by day and night, ever ready to bark if it hears a strange foot or a voice that it does not know. The swift and graceful greyhound, the tall and powerful deer-hound, the spaniels, the retrievers, the fox-hounds, and many other kinds of dogs, are principally useful as helping their masters to hunt down wild animals. 5. At



Water Spaniel.

one time, indeed not very many hundreds of years ago, wolves and bears were quite common in our own country; and it was as dangerous to walk at night in an English wood, as it would now be in some of the forests of the wilder parts of Russia. That we are now rid of these ferocious animals is largely owing to the help of the dog.

6. Far away in the frozen north, where the ground is almost always covered with snow and ice, the dog is of the greatest use as a beast of burden, *as there are no horses or oxen*. Several

Eskimo dogs are harnessed to a little sledge which the driver sits, and they can travel in way fifty or sixty miles a day. 7. The Newfoundland dog is also often employed in its na country for drawing carts or sledges loaded v wood or merchandise. This noble dog, however best known for its great powers of swimming, many people have been saved from drowning its help. 8. Another dog that is equally fam for the number of lives saved by its aid the St Bernard dog of the Alps. These splen animals are kept at the convent of St Bern more than ten thousand feet above the leve the sea, and are thoroughly accustomed to m their way through the deep snow which co the ground at this great elevation. 9. M stories are told of the courage and sagacity played by the dogs of St Bernard in tracking and assisting unfortunate travellers who have their way in the snow, or have been overc by the cold.

10. The dog which follows carriages is either Danish dog or an animal of a similar kind f Dalmatia. The swiftest dog we have is the g hound, which is used for pursuing and kil hares. 11. The largest kind of dog is either Newfoundland or the mastiff; and the smallest Mexican lapdog, which is not much larger t a rat. A Newfoundland was once attacked b bull-dog, which pinned him by the nose, and h on to it, in spite of all that could be done to st him off. The Newfoundland, however, happy

to spy a pailful of boiling tar in the neighbourhood, bolted towards it, and quietly lowered his obstinate enemy into the boiling fluid—a measure which effectually rid him of his assailant.

12. The last dog which we shall mention is the shepherd's dog, which may be regarded as the model of all dogs for patience, cleverness, and devoted faithfulness. Every one knows the skill with which a sheep-dog watches a large flock of sheep, and the wonderful manner in which he recognises his master's wishes, and understands his orders and signals. It would be endless to begin to tell anecdotes of the sheep-dog, but one instance of his sagacity may be given.

13. A shepherd was one evening driving a large flock of lambs across the hills to a farm-house in the south of Scotland. The lambs suddenly took fright at something or another, and dashed off in three different directions. Darkness was coming on, and the shepherd soon lost sight of every one of his flock. 14. In his trouble he told his dog to go and look for the lost sheep, and he himself set off in another direction to see if he could find any trace of them. In this he was disappointed, and after wandering about all night, he was just giving up the search in despair, when he perceived his dog at the bottom of a small valley guarding a number of lambs. 15. What was his joy, on making his way to the spot, to discover that the faithful animal had succeeded during the night in collecting the flock, and that not one of them was missing.

SUMMARY.

1. The dog is a ‘carnivorous’ animal—that is to say, it naturally lives upon the flesh of other animals. (This word is from the two Latin words, *caro*, flesh, and *voro*, I devour.) The dog, therefore, if wild, would be a true ‘beast of prey.’ 2. All our tame dogs, though very different in size and shape, are believed to have come from the same stock. The dog is a very close relative of the wolf and the jackal. 3. The nature of the dog is not nearly so savage as that of the cats, tigers, and lions; and this is shewn by many things. He is not meant to catch his prey by night, as is shewn by the fact that the pupils of his eye are round, instead of being a mere straight slit. His claws are not very sharp, and unlike those of the cat they cannot be drawn under the skin. The tongue also is not rough, as the tongue of a cat is, and consequently it cannot be used for licking the meat off bones.

QUESTIONS.—1. What was the dog originally? 2. What is the difference between a dog and a wolf? 3. Where is the dog found? 4. What is the work of the terrier? 5. What kinds of dogs are used in hunting? 6. What wild animals were at one time common in this country? 7. In what way is the dog useful in the far north? 8. How is the Newfoundland employed? 9. Upon what kind of service are St Bernard dogs employed? 10. For what purpose is the greyhound used? 11. What is the largest kind of dog? 12. The smallest? 13. Tell me the story of the Newfoundland and the bull-dog. 14. Which is the most patient, clever, and faithful of dogs? 15. Tell me the story of the shepherd’s dog and the lambs.

DICTION.—Learn to write out :

*The wolf is a savage and untamable animal,
while the dog has been the friend and companion
of man from the earliest times.*

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Generally	Principally	Harnessed	Model
Disposition	Ferocious	Accustomed	Patience
Accompanied	Carnivorous	Displayed	Anecdotes
Associate	Painful	Travellers	Sagacity

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 13, 14, and 15.

3. Make adjectives of the following nouns : *Use ; master ; friend ; frost ; faith ; affection ; content ; watch ; night ; power ; danger ; fame ; winter ; trouble ; joy.*

4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Tame ; like ; freeze ; use ; strong ; long ; intelligent ; differ ; guard ; obstinate ; travel ; patient ; clever ; tell ; drive ; discover ; collect.*

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) What a difference there is in temper and disposition ! (2) The dog is contented with the poorest fare. (3) The St Bernard dog is accustomed to make his way through the snow. (4) The sheep-dog recognises his master's wishes.

T H E P L U M - C A K E S .

Scout'ed, very much disliked.	Hoard'ing, storing up.
Discern'ing, judgment and power of distinguishing good from evil.	Anx'ious, careful and concerned. Crave, call for food.
Discre'tion, good sense.	Fru'gal, sparing and saving.
Resolved', determined.	Gor'mandising, gluttonous and fond of good eating.
Conveyed', brought.	Mod'erate, keeping to rule.

1. A farmer who some wealth possest,
With three fine boys was also blest.
Tom, Will, and Jack, like other boys,
Loved tops and marbles, sport and toys.
The farmer scouted the false plan,
That money only makes the man;
And to the best of his discerning
Was bent on giving them good learning;
So with due care a school he sought,
Where his young sons might well be taught.

2. Twelve days before the closing year,
When Christmas holidays were near,

The father called to see the boys,
And ask how each his time employs ;
Then from a basket straight he takes
A goodly number of plum-cakes ;
Twelve cakes he gives to each dear son,
Who each expected only one ;
And then with many a kind expression,
He leaves them to their own discretion,
Resolved to mark the use each made
Of what he to their hands conveyed.

3. The twelve days past, he comes once more,
And brings their ponies to the door ;
As home with them his ride he takes,
He asks the history of the cakes.
4. Says Will : ‘ Dear father, life is short,
So I resolved to make quick sport ;
The cakes were all so nice and sweet,
I thought I’d have a jolly treat ;
So, snugly by myself I fed
When every boy was gone to bed ;
I ate them all, both paste and plum,
And did not spare a single crumb ;
But, oh ! they made me, to my sorrow,
As sick as death upon the morrow.’
5. Quoth Tom : ‘ I was not such a dunce
To eat my plum-cakes all at once ;
And though the whole were in my power,
Did I a single cake devour ?
Thanks to the use of keys and locks,
They’re all now snug within my box. . . .

The mischief was, by hoarding long
They grew so mouldy and so strong,
That none of them was fit to eat,
And so he lost his father's treat.

6. ‘Well, Jack,’ the anxious parent cries,
‘How did you manage?’—Jack replies:
‘I thought each day its wants would have,
And appetite again would crave;
So every day I took but one,
But never ate my cake alone;
With every boy I knew, I shared,
And more than half I always spared.
One every day ’twixt self and friend
Has brought my dozen to an end.
7. Tom called me spendthrift not to save;
Will called me fool because I gave;
But when our last day came I smiled,
For Will’s were gone, and Tom’s were spoiled;
Not hoarding much, nor eating fast,
My cakes were good unto the last.’
8. These tales the father’s thoughts employ;
‘By these,’ said he, ‘I know each boy.
Yet Tom who hoarded what he had,
The world will call a frugal lad;
And selfish gormandising Will
Will meet with friends and favourers still;
While moderate Jack, so wise and cool,
The mad and vain will deem a fool.
But I his sober plan approve,
And Jack has gained a father’s love.’

Hannah More.

QUESTIONS.—1. What were the names of the farmer's boys? 2. What did the farmer think best for his sons? 3. At what time did the father call to see his boys? 4. How many cakes did he give to each boy? 5. In how many days did the farmer return? 6. What had Will done with his cakes? 7. What was the consequence? 8. What did Tom do with his? 9. What followed? 10. How did Jack manage? 11. Which son did the farmer like best?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Discerning	Discretion	Hoarding	Spendthrift
Holidays	Conveyed	Anxious	Gormandising
Straight	Sorrow	Appetite	Favourers

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in section 5.

3. Add adjectives to the following words : *Farmer; boys; money; school; cakes; box.*

4. Make verbs out of the following nouns and adjectives : *False; short; power; mad; spoil.*

5. Make nouns out of the following verbs and adjectives : *Employ; approve; bless; expect; discreet; express; quick; resolve; discern; learn; anxious; moderate.*

6. Explain the following phrases : (1) The farmer scouted the false idea that money only makes the man. (2) He left his sons to their own discretion. (3) Appetite would crave again. (4) I approve Jack's sober plan.

T H E C A T.

Swarmed, existed in large numbers. **Sympathetic**, feeling along with others.

Survives, still lives, after the others are dead. **Mul'ish**, like a mule—that is, not readily obedient.

Embalmed, preserved with spices. **Acquire**', get.

Sim'ilar, like. **Capaci'ty**, power.

Experiment, trial for the purpose of proving something.

1. Like the dog, the cat is naturally a 'beast of prey,' but it has never become so thoroughly tamed *as the dog*, probably because it is not so useful an

animal, and so much trouble has, therefore, not been spent in training it. It is also by nature more savage than the dog, more cruel in its manner of catching and killing the small animals which form its food, and not so affectionate or so sensible to kindness. 2. For all that, the cat has many excellent qualities, and is a very nice and even useful animal to have in a house, if it be properly treated; while it becomes very fond of those who are kind to it.

3. It is not quite certain where the cat came from



The Wild-cat.

originally. The 'wild-cat,' which once swarmed in England, and still survives in some of the wildest districts of the north of Scotland, is a much larger and more ferocious beast than our tame 'pussy.' 4. Probably our cats came at first from Egypt, for we know that very long ago the people of Egypt used to keep tame cats, and there is found in that

country a wild animal which is supposed to be the parent of our cats. The people of Egypt thought so much of their cats, that they embalmed their dead bodies. At anyrate, our cats have not existed in England very long, and it is only a few hundred years ago that they were so scarce that a law was passed to punish anybody who injured a cat.

5. Though both the cat and the dog are beasts of prey, there are many points in which they differ from one another. The cat is naturally more blood-thirsty, and this is shewn in several ways. Like the lion and the tiger, it walks on the very tips of its toes, which are covered with cushions of soft skin, so that it can move about with a perfectly noiseless tread. 6. It has very sharp claws, but it can draw these back under the skin when it likes, so that they should not get blunted against the ground. Its tongue is quite rough, as every one knows who has ever had his hand licked by a cat, whereas a dog's tongue is quite smooth. A cat often uses its rough tongue to caress those whom it loves, but the use that it is really intended for is to lick the meat off bones.

7. The cat is intended by nature to sleep during the greater part of the day and to be active at night; but tame cats generally move about as much during the day-time as the night-time, though they always have a sleepy look in the sun-shine. However well fed they may be, they never quite lose their natural habit of killing and eating small birds and other animals. 8. It is well worth

while to watch a cat carefully when it is trying to catch a bird which has settled on the ground, and you can see how like it is to a little tiger. It creeps along in the most cautious and silent manner, with its stomach close to the ground, and without making a sound, though its tail waves backwards and forwards with excitement. 9. If the bird shews signs of flying away, pussy stops at once, as if she had been turned into stone. At last she is within striking distance, and with one bound and a blow of her paw, the poor bird is in the power of its natural enemy.

10. We do not eat sparrows and mice ourselves, and we sometimes speak as if it were cruel of the cat to kill such harmless and inoffensive little creatures. If it happens to be a tame canary or linnet that the cat has killed, there is nothing too hard for us to say. In reality, however, we ought to remember that the cat is only exercising habits which naturally and properly belong to it, and that it is only killing animals which would form its natural food in a wild state.

11. In spite of the fact that the cat is intended to kill and feed upon the animals smaller than itself, it is capable of being trained to lay aside these habits, and to live in perfect peace with small birds, even if shut up in the same cage with them. Cats are not only capable of becoming greatly attached to their own masters, and of following them about, just as dogs do, but they sometimes strike up very close friendships with other animals. 12. A celebrated instance of this was the friendship

which existed between a famous horse called the ‘Godolphin Arabian’ and a black cat. When the horse died, the cat sat upon the body of its late friend till it was buried, and then, creeping slowly away, it was never seen again till it was found dead a few days afterwards in a hay-loft. 13. In another case where a similar friendship existed between a horse and a cat, the cat was so fond of the horse that it insisted upon always sitting upon the horse’s back when it was in the stable. The horse, in turn, was so much attached to the cat, and so unwilling to disturb it, that he used to sleep, as horses sometimes do, standing upright, without lying down. This, however, was found to be so bad for the horse’s health, that the cat was obliged to be sent away to another place.

14. There is a proverb which has a great deal of truth in it: ‘Like man, like dog.’ This means that, where the master is kind and sympathetic and thoughtful, the dog is very intelligent and sagacious; where the dog is cruelly treated, then he becomes savage and wolf-like. This is strikingly the case with the Eskimo dog, whose master is very liberal with the whip and very sparing with food, and who is in consequence a most obstinate, mulish, and savage animal. 15. The proverb is true also of the cat. When the cat is kindly treated, she becomes highly intelligent, and even adopts several human tastes which we could not possibly have expected her to acquire. Tame cats have been known to form lasting friendships with *puppies, rabbits, game-cocks, canaries, and other*

birds ; to prefer tea to milk, bread crusts to meat, and to shew a marked preference for liquors. A cat in the neighbourhood of the New Forest, whose young ones were destroyed, took to three little squirrels, and brought them up with the most loving care. 18. Cats are also famous for a certain strange capacity of finding their way, through unknown parts of the country, across rivers, and even arms of the sea, back to their own home. An odd experiment was once made. Eighteen cats, belonging to different persons, were put into eighteen different baskets, and carried by night to a distance of three miles. They were all set at liberty at the same moment, and fifteen of them reached their home the same night—one of them in an hour—and the three others the following morning.

SUMMARY.

1. The cat, like the dog, is a ‘beast of prey,’ and is intended by nature to live upon other animals. It belongs to a tribe of animals which includes lions, tigers, leopards, panthers, and lynxes. All these animals are called ‘cats’ in a general sense.
2. Our domestic cat is one of the smallest of the ‘cat tribe,’ but it is by nature, and when untamed, a ferocious and blood-thirsty animal. Its claws are very sharp, and it walks on the very tips of its toes, this giving it a peculiarly light, noiseless, and springy step.
3. Its habit is to lie in wait for its prey at night, and to spring suddenly upon it from a distance. It is adapted for seeing at night in consequence of the fact that the pupils of the eyes become large and round in the dark, while they shut up to a small slit in the day-time.
4. As in all the cat tribe, the claws are protected within sheaths in the skin of the toes, so that they are not injured by walking, and the animal can thrust them out when it pleases.

The tongue of the cat is quite rough, and it is used for licking the flesh off the bones of its prey. 5. The teeth of the cat are very sharp, and the eye-teeth in particular are very long and pointed. In the above-mentioned characters, the lion, the tiger, the leopards, and all the rest of the cat tribe agree with the domestic cat.

QUESTIONS.—1. What kind of beast is the cat? 2. Where is the wild-cat still found? 3. From what country does our pussy come originally? 4. What law about cats once existed in England? 5. How does the cat walk? 6. What other animals walk in the same way? 7. What is the difference between the tongue of a cat and that of a dog? 8. For what reason has this roughness of tongue been given to cats? 9. What time do cats like best to sleep? 10. Tell me how a cat catches a bird. 11. What is the natural food of a cat in its wild state? 12. Tell me about the friendship between a cat and a horse. 13. And another instance. 14. What is the proverb about a man and his dog? 15. Give an example of the truth of it. 16. What odd animals have cats made friends with? 17. What curious tastes have they formed? 18. Tell me about the experiment that was made to shew how well cats can find their way home.

DICTIONATION.—Learn to write out:

Like the lion and the tiger, the cat walks on the very tips of its toes, which are covered with cushions of soft skin, so that it can move about with a perfectly noiseless tread.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words:

Thoroughly	Naturally	Creatures	Similar
Animals	Generally	Attached	Sympathetic
Egypt	Cautious	Following	Acquire
Embalmed	Stomach	Celebrated	Experiment

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in section 15.
3. Turn the following nouns into adjectives: *Nature; trouble; sense; parent; injury; thirst; skin; noise; night; sleep; care; stone; power; habit; life; friend; day; health; man; milk; home.*

4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Tame; use; cruel; kind; fierce; ferocious; keep; injure; differ; cover; draw; intend; sleepy; careful; silent; cautious; feed; great; carry; bury; different; attack; arrive; intelligent; strange.*

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) The wild-cat still survives in the north of Scotland. (2) The cat moves about with a perfectly noiseless tread. (3) The cat is capable of being trained to lay aside its habit of catching birds. (4) Where the master is sympathetic, the dog is intelligent. (5) Cats have a strange capacity of finding their way.

STORY OF COUNT GRAAF.

Men-at-arms, paid soldiers.	Transferred', removed.
Toll, money paid by passengers for the right of travelling on a certain road or river.	Commis'erate, pity.
Ward'ers, keepers, watchmen.	Gran'aries, places to store corn or grain in.
Tilled, cultivated, dug up.	Guild'er, a Dutch coin worth about one shilling and nine- pence.
Mán'ifold, of many kinds.	Cov'etousness, greediness.
Hus'bandman, farmer.	

1. Once upon a time, ages ago, when the castles on the river Rhine were inhabited by barons and their men-at-arms, a tower in the midst of the river was erected by a wicked and powerful chief named Count Graaf, for the purpose of exacting tolls from every one who passed up or down the Rhine. If a boat or barge dared to go by without drawing up to the tower to pay a certain toll, the warders on the top of the battlements had orders to shoot with cross-bows at the voyager, and either oblige him to draw nigh, or kill him for daring to pass without paying. 2 You must understand that the baron who *exacted* this toll had done nothing to deserve

it, and had no law in his favour. It was onl
his own will and pleasure that he demanded m
from passing boats, as a means of supporting]
self, and of acquiring wealth without working f

3. Everybody far and near feared this domir
ing rascal. He kept a band of men in an
castle which he had at some distance, and
these he defied any one to prevent his doing a



Count Graaf's Castle on the Rhine.

liked. Often he had battles with neighbour
barons; but he was generally victorious, and
such occasions he never made any prisoners.
who were taken he put to death with shoc
cruelty.

4. Among other ways by which he gath
money was that of occasionally buying up
rather taking for a small price which he put

it, the corn grown by the peasants in his neighbourhood. Graaf was a very cunning man in this respect. He could very easily have taken all the crops for ten miles round for nothing; but the consequence would have been, that no one would have tilled any more land in that quarter, and so he could not have taken more than the corn of a single season. 5. He was, as I say, too cunning for this; his plan was to make a show of kindness to the country-people, but to take advantage of their being poor and needy. Sometimes he sent the corn which he thus got at a trifling expense to Mayence, and procured large sums for it; but more frequently he kept the corn up till there was a scarcity, and then he could get for it any money he liked to name.

6. Year after year Count Graaf grew richer and richer with robberies of one kind and another; and every one said that he could not pass out of the world without some sharp and signal punishment for his greed and manifold oppressions. This, however, seemed long of coming about. Yet the time of vengeance arrived at last. 7. He had become old and more hard-hearted than ever, when one year there arose a dreadful famine in the land. The summer and autumn were so wet that the grain did not ripen, and it continued still green when the snows of winter fell on the ground. In every town and village the cry of distress was heard; the husbandman saw his children fainting and perishing for want of food, and the wealthy were becoming poor, from being obliged to purchase

at enormous prices small supplies of bread. a. Every one was suffering except the cunning old baron whom I am telling you of. While everybody else cried, he laughed and chuckled over the rare high prices he expected he should get for his great store of grain, which, for security, he transferred to the rooms and vaults of the tower in the river.

b. Things during that awful winter became daily worse throughout the country. The poor of the villages flocked to the towns for assistance; but the towns being as badly off as the villages, the famishing crowds were refused admittance, and they perished in thousands at the gateways. All animals fit for food were killed and eaten up—cows, oxen, horses, dogs, and other creatures.
10. A very curious thing was now observed. Large numbers of rats began to wander about the country in quest of food; and so bold and ferocious did they become, that people fled before them.
11. When accounts of these distresses were taken to old Count Graaf at the tower, he did not in the smallest degree commiserate the sufferings of the poor. Instead of opening his granaries and selling his corn at a reasonable cost, he declared that he should not dispose of a single sack till the price of the loaf in Mayence reached as high as ten guilders.
12. ‘If the people are starving,’ said he jocularly, ‘why do they not eat rats, rather than allow so much good food to go to waste throughout the country?’ This was a bitter saying, and it was afterwards remembered against him.
13. One night, when he was sitting in his tower there,

congratulating himself on soon getting the price he demanded—for the loaf was now selling for nine and a half guilders—the warder from the top of the castle rushed suddenly into his apartment, and declared that the river was covered with armies of rats swimming boldly to the tower, and that some had already gained a landing, and were climbing the loopholes and walls.

14. Scarcely had this intelligence been communicated by the terrified man-at-arms, when thousands of famishing rats poured in at the doors, windows, and passages, in search, no doubt, of something to eat, whether corn or human beings mattered not to them. Flight and defence were equally impossible. While host after host attacked the granaries, bands fell upon the wicked old baron, and he was worried to death where he lay, and almost immediately torn in pieces and devoured. 15. The warder and one or two other attendants alone escaped, by throwing themselves into a boat and making with all speed for the nearest bank of the river. When the news of Count Graaf's death was spread abroad, nobody mourned his fate, which indeed was looked upon as a just punishment for his great covetousness and cruelty. 16. No one ventured near the tower for several months afterwards. When at length the heirs of the count visited it, they found that all the grain had been eaten up, and that nothing remained of its former owner but a skeleton stretched on the cold floor of one of the apartments.

QUESTIONS.—1. Where did Count Graaf build his castle? 2. How did he treat the boats passing up and down the river? 3. Had he any right to treat travellers in this way? 4. In what other ways did Count Graaf gather up money? 5. Why did he not use his power, and rob the country people of their corn without paying for it? 6. What used he to do with the corn which he procured? 7. What happened one year, when Count Graaf was becoming old? 8. How did he behave while every one else was starving? 9. What was the price which he said the loaf must reach, before he sold his corn? 10. What happened one night, when he was sitting in his tower? 11. What did the rats do to the count? 12. How was his death generally regarded? 13. What was found on visiting the tower some months afterwards?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Voyager	Punishment	Security
Pleasure	Oppressions	Ferocious
Domineering	Purchase	Granaries

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in paragraphs 1 and 2.

3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Baron* ; *cruelty* ; *famine* ; *winter* ; *rats* ; *prices* ; *town* ; *village* ; *granaries* ; *tower* ; *army* ; *river*.

4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Toll* ; *prisoners* ; *crops* ; *corn* ; *dogs* ; *loaf* ; *people* ; *warder* ; *servants* ; *rats* ; *heirs*.

5. Explain the following sentences : (1) His plan was to make a show of kindness. (2) He could get for it any money he liked to name. (3) The time of vengeance arrived at last. (4) Congratulating himself on soon getting the price he demanded. (5) Scarcely had this intelligence been communicated by the terrified man-at-arms.



B I S H O P H A T T O.

Gran'aries, storehouses for grain ;	Coun'tenance, face.
barns.	Myriads, tens of thousands.
Repair', come.	Of yore, of old; in days that are
Forlorn', miserable.	past.
Loop'holes, holes left in the walls of old castles to shoot through at an enemy.	Tell his beads, say his prayers. Whett'ed, sharpened.

1. The summer and autumn had been so wet,
That in winter the corn was growing yet;
'Twas a piteous sight to see all around
The grain lie rotting on the ground.
2. Every day the starving poor
Crowded around Bishop Hatto's door;
For he had a plentiful last year's store,
And all the neighbourhood could tell
His granaries were furnished well.
3. At last Bishop Hatto appointed a day
To quiet the poor without delay;
He bade them to his great barn repair,
And they should have food for the winter
there.
4. Rejoiced such tidings good to hear,
The poor folk flocked from far and near;
The great barn was full, as it could hold,
Of women and children, and young and old.

5 Then when he saw it could hold no more,
Bishop Hatto he made fast the door;
And while for mercy on Christ they call,
He set fire to the barn and burned them all.

6 ‘I faith, ‘tis an excellent bonfire!’ quoth he,
‘And the country is greatly obliged to me,
For ridding it, in these times forlorn,
Of rats, that only consume the corn.’

7 So then to his palace returnèd he,
And he sat down to supper merrily,
And he slept that night like an innocent man;
But Bishop Hatto never slept again.

8 In the morning as he entered the hall,
Where his picture hung against the wall,
A sweat like death all over him came,
For the rats had eaten it out of the frame.

9 As he looked there came a man from the farm,
He had a countenance white with alarm:
‘My lord, I opened your granaries this morn,
And the rats had eaten all your corn.’

10 Another came running presently,
And he was pale as pale could be:
‘Fly! my Lord Bishop, fly,’ quoth he,
‘Ten thousand rats are coming this way—
The Lord forgive you for yesterday!

11. 'I'll go to my tower on the Rhine,' replied he:
 'Tis the safest place in Germany;
 The walls are high, and the shores are steep,
 And the stream is strong, and the water deep.
12. Bishop Hatto fearfully hastened away,
 And he crossed the Rhine without delay,
 And reached his tower, and barred with care
 All the windows, doors, and loopholes there.
13. He laid him down, and closed his eyes,
 But soon a scream made him arise;
 He started, and saw two eyes of flame
 On his pillow from whence the screaming came.
14. He listened and looked; it was only the cat;
 But the Bishop he grew more fearful for that,
 For she sat screaming, mad with fear,
 At the army of rats that was drawing near.
15. For they have swum over the river so deep,
 And they have climbed the shores so steep,
 And up the tower their way is bent
 To do the work for which they were sent.
16. They are not to be told by the dozen or score,
 By thousands they come, and by myriads and
 more;
 Such numbers had never been heard of before,
 Such a judgment had never been witnessed
 of yore.

17. Down on his knees the Bishop fell,
 And faster and faster his beads did he tell,
 As louder and louder drawing near
 The gnawing of their teeth he could hear.

18. And in at the windows, and in at the door,
 And through the walls helter-skelter they
 pour,
 And down from the ceiling, and up through
 the floor,
 From the right and the left, from behind and
 before,
 From within and without, from above and
 below,
 And all at once to the Bishop they go.

19. They have whetted their teeth against the
 stones,
 And now they pick the Bishop's bones ;
 They gnawed the flesh from every limb,
 For they were sent to do judgment on him.
Southey.

QUESTIONS.—1. Why did the poor folk crowd round Bishop Hatto's door ? 2. What promise did he make them ? 3. How did he keep his promise ? 4. Why did he say the country should be obliged to him ? 5. When he went into his great hall the next morning, what was the sight that met his view ? 6. While he was looking at the empty picture-frame, what news was brought him ? 7. What did the next messenger tell him ? 8. Why did the bishop go to his tower on the Rhine ? 9. Where is the Rhine ? 10. What did the bishop do to make the tower *secure* ? 11. Shut up in the tower, what was the first thing that told him that danger was near. 12. How did the rats get in ?

DICTION.—Learn to write out :

*The summer and autumn had been so wet,
That in winter the corn was growing yet ;
'Twas a piteous sight to see all around
The grain lie rotting on the ground.*

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Autumn	Countenance	Judgment
Piteous	Screaming	Gnawing
Neighbourhood	Climbed	Ceiling
Granaries	Myriads	Whetted

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in verses 1, 2, and 3.

3. Turn the following nouns into adjectives : *Autumn ; winter ; sight ; day ; mercy ; alarm ; water ; number ; bone.*

4. Make nouns out of the following verbs and adjectives : *Growing ; piteous ; starving ; plentiful ; tell ; furnish ; appoint ; excellent ; entered ; run ; fly ; forgive ; high ; strong ; deep.*

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) His granaries were furnished well. (2) He appointed a day. (3) He had a countenance white with alarm. (4) They are not to be told by the dozen or score. (5) Such a judgment had never been witnessed of yore. (6) His beads did he tell.





H O M E.

1. Mid pleasures and palaces though we may roam,
Be it ever so humble, there's no place like home!
A charm from the skies seems to hallow us
there,
Which, seek through the world, is ne'er met
with elsewhere.

Home! home! sweet home!
There's no place like home!

2. An exile from home, splendour dazzles in vain—
 Oh, give me my lowly thatched cottage again;
 The birds singing gaily, that come at my call:
 Give me these, and the peace of mind, dearer
 than all.

Home! sweet, sweet home!

There's no place like home!

Payne.

THE SHEEP.

Manufacture, making.	Devour', eat up.
Protects', covers.	Accidental, not intended.
If occasion should arise, if the chance should happen.	Precipitated, thrown down.
Mimic, imitator.	Unhesitatingly, without stopping to think.

1. Ever since people have taken the trouble to keep any history of themselves, we find that the sheep has been one of the most valued of domestic animals, and has furnished us for many many centuries both with clothing and with meat. There is no part of the sheep that is not useful. Hardly less valuable than the mutton which we eat, is the fat of the sheep, which is known as *tallow*, and is largely used in the manufacture of candles and for other purposes. 2. The most important thing, however, that we get from the sheep is the *wool*, from which are made blankets and all sorts of woollen cloth. In our tame sheep the wool forms a thick *fleece*, which protects the animal against the cold of winter; but wild sheep have much less wool than domestic ones. When

the summer comes, the sheep are ‘shorn’—that is to say, their fleece is cut off with a pair of large scissors or ‘shears.’ In this way we not only



get the wool without hurting the sheep, but the animal is relieved of a coat which would make it uncomfortably warm in the hot weather. The *finest wool* is the wool of the Merino sheep, which

is found in Spain. The flocks are generally ten thousand in number; and to each flock there are fifty shepherds—each with his dogs.

4. There are a great number of different kinds of domestic sheep, and some of them are very peculiar in their appearance. Most of them have horns, but some have none. Some have black faces and feet, some are white all over, some are altogether black. 5. Sheep are entirely harmless and inoffensive, and, as a general rule, they are extremely timid and easily frightened. They are, however, capital climbers, and will boldly make their way down cliffs that very few boys would care to attempt. 6. They will also face an enemy with considerable courage, if occasion should arise; and an old ram, when his temper is thoroughly roused, is not to be trifled with even by a full-grown man. In fact, so terrible is the shock of a ram's charge, that it has been known to knock down a bull at the first blow. 7. The best friends of the sheep must admit that they are not very clever animals; though they certainly learn to know their masters, and are capable of being very affectionate to those who treat them kindly. Pet lambs too have been known to shew great ability. 8. One pet lamb, mentioned by Mr Wood, was a very clever mimic—nearly as clever in mimicry as a monkey. When it was praised or patted for its cleverness, it rolled over and over like a ball and then stood upon its head. It was very fond of parsley, and used to devour the parsley beds till not a green blade remained. At last the gardener

put the parsley under thick ‘bull’s-eye’ glass; but the lamb would wait till no one was in sight, pick up a large stone in his teeth, and then drop it on the glass and break it. It would then put its head through the opening and quietly browse upon the parsley.

a. Sheep have a very singular habit of always following the one who happens to be the leader of the flock; and they may be led almost anywhere by tying a bell round the neck of this leader. In the East, where the shepherds never drive their sheep, but only lead them, the vast flocks of which they are in charge are guided and made obedient by this habit. 10. A few pet sheep have been trained to follow at the heels of the shepherd, whenever he plays on his flute; and these pet sheep thus become the leaders of the whole flock. Sometimes this habit causes their destruction, and a very remarkable instance of this happened a few years ago in America. In this country, where the rivers are wide, and labour is scarce and dear, it is quite common to put up bridges which are made entirely of wood, and are boarded in at both sides and also at the top. 11. These bridges are, therefore, like tunnels, and when they are long and narrow they are quite dark, except that you can always see the opening at the other end. One day a shepherd was driving a flock of several hundred sheep through one of these bridges, which crossed a wide and deep river at a considerable height. As usual, the shepherd *was at the tail of the flock*, and the leading sheep

entered the bridge first. 12 All went well till the middle of the bridge was reached, at which point it unfortunately happened that a couple of boards had fallen out from one of the side-walls. Still more unfortunately, the leading sheep mistook this accidental opening for his proper road, and stepping out unsuspiciously was immediately precipitated into the deep and rapid stream beneath. Acting upon their usual habit, the remaining sheep unhesitatingly followed their leader, and rushed blindly to their destruction ; and it was not till all the flock, save a few score, had been drowned in this way that the unlucky shepherd discovered what was going on, and succeeded in putting a stop to it.

SUMMARY.

1. The sheep, like the horse, cow, and pig, is a ‘hoofed’ animal. It has two hoofs on each foot, on which it walks, and it has two little toes on the back of each foot, which are so small that they do not touch the ground. The head is furnished with horns, which are generally twisted into a spiral. The legs are comparatively short. 2. Like the ox, the sheep chews the cud. The sheep is one of the most useful of animals to man. Its flesh affords an excellent meat ; its fat is used in the manufacture of tallow candles ; and in some places its milk is extensively drunk. 3. The sheep is covered with a fleece of thick curly hair or wool, which is used in immense quantities in the manufacture of all kinds of woollen cloth. The wool is generally clipped off the back of the sheep in the early part of summer. 4. The sheep is domesticated nearly all over the world ; and there are also several kinds of wild sheep, in Corsica and other countries, more or less closely related to the domestic sheep. The male sheep is called a ‘ram,’ and the female sheep is called a ‘ewe.’

QUESTIONS.—1. How long has the sheep been useful to man? 2. What parts of the sheep are useful to us? 3. Which have most wool, the wild or the domestic sheep? 4. What is the finest wool? 5. How many sheep are in a Spanish flock? 6. How many shepherds are there to each flock? 7. Tell me some of the different marks of the different kinds of sheep. 8. What kind of fighter is a ram? 9. Tell the story of the pet lamb. 10. What curious habit have sheep? 11. How is this habit taken advantage of by Eastern shepherds? 12. Tell the story of the sheep falling through the bridge in America.

DICTATION.—Learn to write out :

The sheep is one of the most valued of domestic animals. It supplies us with clothing and meat; and there is no part of the sheep that is not useful in some way.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Manufacture	Weather	Capital	Capable
Purposes	Enormous	Attempt	Affectionate
Important	Frightened	Considerable	Remarkable
Relieved	Inoffensive	Mimicry	Accidental

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in section 12.
3. Add a verb to each of the following nouns : *Sheep ; shepherd ; dog ; ram ; flocks ; pet lambs ; bridges.*
4. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Sheep ; history ; wool ; fleece ; horn ; harm ; courage ; glass ; labour ; habit.*
5. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Clothe ; important ; hot ; appear ; long ; short ; weigh ; high ; rough ; timid ; know ; lead ; able ; scarce ; grow ; dear ; quiet ; dark ; drive ; cross ; play.*
6. Explain the following phrases : (1) The sheep is one of the most valued of domestic animals. (2) The animal is relieved of a coat which would make it too warm in summer. (3) They will face an enemy with courage, if occasion should arise. (4) He was immediately precipitated into the stream beneath.

MUNGO PARK AND THE NEGRO WOMAN.

Discover, find out.

Des'ert, that do not produce corn
nor fruits.
Toil, hard work.

Admit', let in.

Compass'ion, pity and sympathy.
Light'en, make light and cheer-
ful.

1. Mungo Park was a traveller, who, in 1795, visited Africa, and travelled about for the purpose of discovering the source of a great river called the Niger. His journey was long, dangerous, and painful, across wide desert countries, where there are many wild beasts, and many tribes of black men that are constantly at war with each other.

2 After much danger and toil, the traveller reached the banks of the Niger, which he saw was a fine broad river. He now wished to cross to the opposite side ; but, as he could not find a boat, he resolved to wait at a village close at hand till next day.

3. Park accordingly went to the village to seek for lodging and food ; but the people had never seen a white man before, and being afraid of him they would not admit him into their houses. This made him sad, and he was obliged to sit all day, without food, under the shade of a tree.

4. Night came on, and threatened to be very uncomfortable, for the wind rose, with the appearance of a heavy storm of rain ; and there were so many wild beasts in the neighbourhood, that Park thought he should have to climb up the tree to rest all night among its branches.

5. 'About sunset, however,' says he, 'as I was

preparing to pass the night in this manner, and had turned my horse loose that he might graze at liberty, a woman stopped to look at me. Seeing that I was weary and sorrowful, she, with looks of great compassion, took up my saddle and bridle, and told me to follow her. Having led me into her hut, she lighted a lamp, spread a mat on the floor, and told me that I might remain there for the night.

6. ‘Finding that I was very hungry, she said she would get me something to eat. She accordingly went out, and returned in a short time with a very fine fish, which she broiled on some hot ashes and gave me for supper. 7. The kind-hearted negro woman then pointed to the mat, and told me I might sleep there without any fear of danger. She now called to the women of her family, who had been gazing on me with wonder, to begin spinning cotton, and in this they employed themselves the greater part of the night.

8. ‘They lightened their labour by songs, one of which they made on the subject of my visit. The air was sweet and mournful, and the words were these: “The winds roared and the rain fell. The poor white man, faint and weary, came and sat under our tree. He has no mother to bring him milk—no wife to grind his corn. Let us pity the poor white man who came and sat under our tree.”

QUESTIONS.—1. Who was Mungo Park? 2. Where did he travel? 3. When? 4. For what purpose? 5. Did he discover it? 6. Why did he not cross at once to the opposite side?

7. Where did he go for lodgings and food ? 8. Why would the people not let him into their houses ? 9. Where was he obliged to stop all day ? 10. What food had he ? 11. What was it likely he would have to do during the night ? 12. What did he do with his horse ? 13. What did the woman who saw him do for him ? 14. Where did she take him to ? 15. What did she give him to eat ? 16. What kind of bed did she give him ? 17. How did the women of the family spend the evening ? 18. What song did they sing .

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Traveller	Threatened	Employed	Weary
Opposite	Neighbourhood	Gazing	Compassion

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in paragraph 8.
 3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *River ; boat ; horse ; fish ; supper ; woman.*
 4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Beasts ; men ; wind ; storm ; woman ; labour.*
 5. Turn the following verbs and adjectives into nouns : *Dark ; travel ; weary ; discover ; white ; long ; strong ; big ; resolve ; admit ; prepare ; employ ; faint ; sit.*
 6. Explain the following sentences : (1) He resolved to wait at a village. (2) The night threatened to be very stormy. (3) She had looks of great compassion. (4) They lightened their labour with songs.

THE TRAVELLER IN AFRICA.

A NEGRO SONG.

1. The loud wind roared, the rain fell fast,
 The white man yielded to the blast ;
 He sat him down beneath our tree,
 For weary, sad, and faint was he :
 But, ah ! no wife nor mother's care
 For him the milk and corn prepare.

CHORUS.

2. The white man shall our pity share;
Alas ! no wife nor mother's care
For him the milk and corn prepare.
3. The storm is o'er, the tempest past,
And mercy's voice has hushed the blast;
The wind is heard in whispers low:
The white man far away must go;
But ever in his heart will bear
Remembrance of the negro's care.

CHORUS.

4. Go ! white man, go ! but with thee bear
The negro's wish, the negro's prayer,
Remembrance of the negro's care.

Duchess of Devonshire.

QUESTIONS.—1. Complete this line : *The white man yielded . . .*
 2. Where did he sit down ? 3. For what did the negroes pity
 him most ? 4. Repeat the first chorus. 5. Complete the line :
And mercy's voice . . . 6. Why must the white man go
 away ? 7. Repeat the second chorus. 8. What line comes after :
He sat him down beneath our tree ? 9. What after : *The wind is*
heard in whispers low ? (Other lines may be given.)

EXERCISES.—1. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in
 the first verse.

2. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Wind ; rain ; man ;*
milk ; corn ; storm.

3. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Storm ; tempest ; river ;*
man.

4. Explain the sentences : (1) The white man shall our pity
 share. (2) Mercy's voice has hushed the blast. (3) He will
ever bear in his heart remembrance of the negro's care.



Hare-hunting.

THE HARE.

Pursuit', chasing or following.	Endur'ance, power of holding out.
For'tunate, lucky.	
Protec'tion, guard or way of escaping from evil.	Detect', find out or know beforehand.

1. The Hare is one of the most timid and easily frightened of animals; and it must be confessed that in this country it has more than sufficient reason to be so. The poor animal can hardly ever shew itself in the day-time without being shot at by some sportsman, and every now and then it has to run for its life from the pursuit of men mounted on horseback and accompanied by a number of dogs called harriers. Greyhounds are employed for 'coursing' the hare, which, however, is generally considered to be a cruel sport. In coursing, not more than two greyhounds pursue each hare. 2. The greyhounds can run very much quicker than the hare can, good runner as it is, and

if it were to run straight on, the dogs would very soon catch it. Its only chance is to turn quickly to one side or the other, when the dogs get close behind it; and as they are not prepared for this manœuvre of the hare, which is called 'doubling,' the hare in this way gets a start for a new run. 2. Greyhounds hunt the hare only by sight and not by smell, so that if the hare is fortunate enough to get amongst furze or bushes, where the dogs cannot see it, it generally escapes. Other dogs, however, hunt the hare by scent, running with their noses near the ground, and from these it rarely escapes. Unlike the rabbit, it has no burrow in which to take shelter. 4. The hare, in fact, has no fixed home, but makes a little shallow hollow in the ground, in which it lies, and which it can change when it likes. This is called its 'form.' 5. The chief protection that the hare has against its enemies lies in its great speed, and its powers of endurance. If we look at a hare, we shall see that the hind-legs are much longer and stronger than the fore-legs, and the animal may be rather said to leap than to walk or to run. It has been known to jump over a wall eight feet high to escape from its pursuers. 6. It has also got very quick senses of hearing and sight, and can detect a coming danger afar off. Its ears are very long and restless, and its eyes are very large; but it sees things which are behind better than those which are in front, and it has sometimes been known to run right in among a pack of hounds *without seeing where it was going.*

7. The hare is a very useful animal. Its flesh is dark brown, and is very good to eat; and its fur is thick and warm, and can be used for various purposes. On the other hand, there are many places where hares are allowed to become so numerous that they do a great deal of harm to farmers, eating up the young corn, and the vegetables in the garden, and gnawing off the bark of young trees with their sharp front teeth. The common hare has a brown fur, but the hare which is found in the northern parts of Scotland turns quite white in the winter-time, so that it is difficult to see it when the snow is on the ground.

8. That the hare has a good deal of courage is proved by the following story. A man had caught a young leveret in the fields, and was going to mark it by making a notch in its ears before he let it away again, when suddenly the mother hare flew at him with great fury, and struck so fiercely with her feet that she tore and cut open his hands rather severely. When she saw that she could not release her young one, she took her stand within a few feet of the man, and waited with patient courage until he freed the little hare, when the two made off together.

SUMMARY.

1. The hare is what is called a 'rodent' animal. This name is from the Latin word *rodo*, I gnaw, and is in allusion to the fact that all animals of this kind have teeth constructed for gnawing roots, the bark of trees, and other hard substances. By looking at the mouth of a hare we can see how this is the case. We can see that the front teeth are shaped like chisels,

so that the animal can cut through hard substances with them. 2. Rats, mice, squirrels, beavers, and many other animals have teeth of the same kind, and they all feed upon hard vegetable substances, such as roots, different kinds of fruits, seeds, the bark of trees, and the leaves and branches of all kinds of plants. 3. The hare is a very timid animal, and runs very quickly. Its hind-legs are much longer than its fore-legs, so that it runs by a succession of jumps. Its tail is extremely short, and is turned up. 4. There are two kinds of hares in Britain—namely, the common brown hare, and the white or mountain hare. Both are valued for the sake of their flesh, and also for their soft warm fur.

QUESTIONS.—1. Why is the hare so timid ? 2. What is ‘coursing’? 3. What is the hare’s best chance of getting away? 4. How does the greyhound hunt the hare? 5. And other dogs? 6. Where does the hare live? 7. What is the chief safeguard of the hare against its enemies? 8. Which of its legs are longest and strongest? 9. How high has it been known to jump? 10. In which direction does it see best? 11. For what is the hare useful? 12. Tell the story of the hare and its young one.

DICTATION.—Learn to write out :

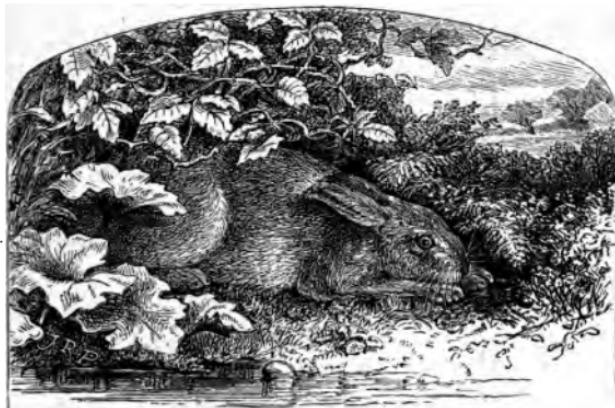
*Half a hundred horsemen, together with a pack
of dogs, band together in pursuit of one
defenceless hare.*

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Sufficient	Generally	Various	Leveret
Sportsman	Protection	Vegetables	Fiercely
Accompanied	Endurance	Difficult	Patient

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in section 8.
3. Turn the following nouns into adjectives : *Reason ; day ; life ; sport ; bush ; home ; speed ; sense ; danger ; use ; snow ; courage ; mother ; youth ; fury.*
4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Timid ; shoot ; pursue ; run ; see ; protect ; endure ; know ; useful ; severe ; various ; patient ; difficult ; young ; sudden.*
5. Explain the following phrases : (1) It has more than

sufficient reason to be very timid. (2) It has to run for its life from the pursuit of man. (3) Greyhounds hunt the hare only by sight. (4) The chief protection of the hare lies in its speed and power of endurance. (5) It can detect a coming danger afar off. (6) She could not release her young one.



THE HARE'S FORM.

1. Under the broad blue hill,
Up from the meadow—
Half in the shadow;
Near a sweet whispering rill,
Never an instant still,
But with a music-thrill
Bubbling for ever;
Under the broad blue hill,
Nooked in and warm,
Coped by a ferny frill,
Lies the hare's form.

a. There, on a bed of moss,
 Is puss's pillow—
 Velvety yellow;
 Soft as the flower floss—
 Bright as the golden gloss—
 Rich as its anther-cross,
 Where the bees swarm.
 Under the broad blue hill,
 Where the south winds have will,
 Chasing the northern chill,
 Lies the hare's form.

a. Over her anxious head,
 Arches the brier,
 Higher and higher;
 And the wild dog-rose, red,
 Densing the cosy shade,
 Hiding the bowery bed
 From the rude storm.
 Under the broad blue hill,
 Flanked by the tawny bell
 Of the field-asphodel,
 Lies the hare's form.

Dr Campion.



PROCRASTINATION.

Reputa'tion, fame.	Housed, put under shelter.
Confidence, trust, belief.	Expedi'tion, speed.
Law'-suit, a quarrel which has to be settled by a judge.	Entertain'd, felt.
Profess'ion, business, employment.	Tur'bid, muddy.
Cli'ent, a persona who employs a lawyer.	Reg'ulate, guide.
	Dis'trikt, a limited part of a country.

1. One day a farmer, called Bernard, had been to his county town to attend the market there; and, having finished his business, there still remained some hours before he required to return to his home. Under these circumstances, having nothing particular to do, he thought he might as well get an opinion¹ from a lawyer. He had often heard people speaking of a certain Mr Wiseman, whose reputation was so great that even the judge did not like to decide contrary to his opinion. The farmer, therefore, asked for Mr Wiseman's address, and without delay made his way to his house.

2. He found a large number of people waiting to ask the advice of the learned and clever lawyer, and he had to wait a long time. At last his turn came, and he was shewn into the room. Mr Wiseman asked him to sit down, and then, settling his spectacles on his nose so as to get a comfortable look at him, begged him to state his business.

3. 'Upon my word, Mr Lawyer,' said the farmer, uneasily twisting his hat in his hand, 'I can't say that I have any particular business with you; but as I happened to be in town to-day, I thought I should be losing an opportunity if I did not get an *opinion* from you.'

'I am much obliged by your confidence in me,' replied the lawyer. 'You have, I suppose, some law-suit going on?'

'A law-suit?' said the farmer; 'I should rather think not! There is nothing I hate so much, and I have never had a quarrel with any one in my life.'

4. 'Then, I suppose, you want some family property fairly and justly divided?'

'I beg your pardon, sir; my family lives with me in peace, and we have no need to think of dividing our property.'

'Perhaps, then, you want some agreement drawn up about the sale or purchase of something?'

'Not at all! I am not rich enough to be purchasing property, and not poor enough to wish to sell any.'

5. 'Then what on earth do you want me to do, my friend?' said the astonished lawyer.

'Well, Mr Wiseman, I thought I had already told you that,' replied Bernard, with a sheepish laugh; 'what I want is an *opinion*—I am ready to pay for it. You see, here I am in town, and it would be a great pity if I were to lose the opportunity.'

6. The lawyer looked at him and smiled; then, taking up his pen, he asked the farmer what his name was. 'Peter Bernard,' said he, quite pleased that the lawyer at last understood what he wanted.

'Your age?'

'Forty years, or somewhere about that.'

'Your profession?'

'My profession? Ah, yes! you mean what do *I do?* *I am a farmer.*'

7. The lawyer, still smiling, wrote two lines on a piece of paper, folded it up, and gave it to his strange client.

'Is that all?' cried Bernard; 'well, well! so much the better. I daresay you are too busy to write much. Now, how much does that cost, Mr Lawyer?'

'Half-a-crown.'

8. Bernard paid the money, well contented, gave a bow and a scrape, and went away delighted that he had got his *opinion*. When he reached home it was four in the afternoon ; he was tired with his journey, and he resolved to have a good rest. It happened, however, that his hay had been cut for some days, and was now completely dry ; and one of his men came to ask if it should be carried in and housed that night.

9. 'This night!' said the farmer's wife; 'who ever heard of such a thing ? Your master is tired, and the hay can just as well be got in to-morrow.'

The man said it was no business of his, but the weather might change, and the horses and carts were ready, and the labourers had nothing to do.

10. To this the angry wife replied that the wind was in a favourable quarter,² and that they could not anyway get the work done before nightfall.

Bernard, having listened to both sides of the question, didn't know how to decide, when, all of a sudden, he remembered the paper the lawyer had given him.

11. 'Stop a minute!' cried he; 'I have got an *opinion*—a famous opinion—an opinion that cost me half-a-crown. That's the thing to put us *straight*. You are a grand scholar, my dear, tell

us what *it* says.' His wife took the paper, and, with some little difficulty, read out these two lines:

'PETER BERNARD, NEVER PUT OFF TILL TOMORROW WHAT YOU CAN DO TO-DAY.'

'There's the very thing!' cried the farmer. 'Quick! out with the men and the carts, and we'll have the hay in at once.'

12. His wife still grumbled, but it was of no use; Bernard was obstinate. He declared that he was not going to pay half-a-crown for nothing, and that, as he had got an *opinion* from his lawyer, he would follow it whatever happened. In fact, he set the example himself, and urging his men to the greatest expedition, he did not return to his home till all the hay was safely housed.

13. Whatever doubts his wife might have entertained as to his wisdom, were fully put at rest by the result; for the weather changed suddenly during the night; an unexpected storm burst over the valley; and when she woke in the morning she saw running through the meadows a brown and turbid flood, carrying in its current the newly-cut hay of her neighbours. All the farmers close by lost their hay; but Bernard alone had saved his.

14. Having experienced the benefits which followed obedience to the advice of the lawyer, Bernard from that day forward never failed to regulate his conduct by the same rule, and in course of time he became one of the richest farmers of the district. Nor did he forget the service which Mr Wiseman had rendered him, for he sent him every year a *present* of two fat fowls, in remembrance of his

luable advice ; and, whenever he had occasion speak to his neighbours about lawyers, he ways said that 'after the ten commandments, ere was nothing that should be more strictly llowed than the *opinion* of a good lawyer.'

EXPLANATIONS.—1. An 'opinion' usually merely means what person thinks about a particular subject ; but the 'opinion' of *lawyer* is his statement, generally in writing, of what he thinks the justice of some particular case, which is to be tried by a dge. 2. 'The wind was in a favourable quarter'—When the nd blows from some particular quarter of the compass, such as e east or the north, it is generally dry, while other winds bring in with them. The farmer's wife meant that the wind was t blowing from the quarter whence rain usually came, and at therefore it was likely to keep fine and dry through the ght.

QUESTIONS.—1. What did Bernard wish to get from the wyer ? 2. How did the lawyer give him his opinion ? 3. What d one of his men ask him, when he returned to his farm ? What was the opinion of his wife ? 5. What did Bernard iddenly remember when he found it difficult to decide ? What advice was contained in the lawyer's opinion ? 7. What d Bernard do in consequence ? 8. What happened during the ght ? 9. What was the result to the neighbouring farmers ? 10. How did Bernard become rich ? 11. How did he shew his attitude to the lawyer ?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Particular	Opportunity	Favourable	Current
Lawyer	Confidence	Difficulty	Benefits
Address	Astonished	Expedition	Valuable
Spectacles	Client	Entertained	Neighbours

2. Select the nouns, adjectives, and verbs from sections 13 nd 14.

3. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *ood* ; *obedient* ; *forget* ; *busy* ; *hear* ; *speak* ; *great* ; *make* ; *ngide* ; *oblige* ; *divide* ; *think* ; *know* ; *please* ; *content*.

4. Make adjectives out of the following nouns and verbs:
Benefit; forget; value; advise; obey; law; comfort; confidence; agree; smile; year; delight; change; favour; fame; storm; benefit; value.

A HARD WINTER.

Decked, ornamented. **Melancholy,** low spirits.



1. The mill-wheel's frozen in
 the stream,
 The church is decked
 with holly;
 Mistletoe hangs from the
 kitchen beam,
 To fright away melan-
 choly.
 Icicles clink in the milk-
 maid's pail,
 Younkers skate in the
 pool below,



The Frozen Mill-wheel.

Blackbirds perch on the garden rail,
And hark ! how the cold winds blow.

2. There goes the squire to shoot at snipe,
Here runs Dick to fetch a log ;
You'd say his breath was the smoke of a pipe,
In the frosty morning fog.
Hodge is breaking the ice for the kine,
Old and young cough as they go ;
The round red sun forgets to shine,
And hark ! how the cold winds blow.

James Smith.

QUESTIONS.—1. What has happened to the mill-wheel ?
2. What is said about the church ? 3. Where is the mistletoe hung ? 4. What has happened to the milk ? 5. Why do the blackbirds sit on the garden fence ? 6. The squire is going off—for what ? 7. What is said about Dick's breath ? 8. What is Hodge doing ? 9. Why ? 10. What is the colour of the sun ?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Mistletoe Melancholy Icicles Younkers

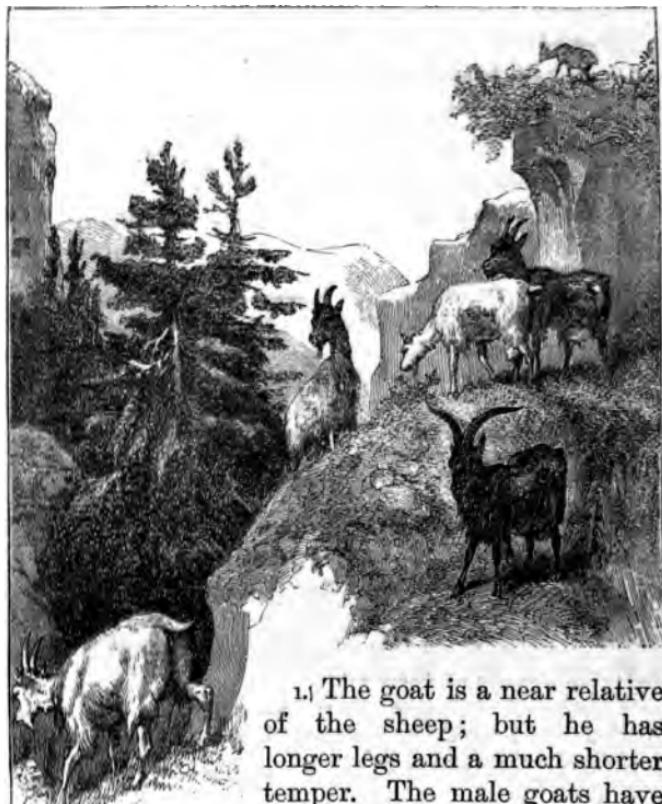
2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs, in verse I.
3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Church ; icicles ; milk ; blackbirds ; kine ; sun.*
4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Mill-wheel ; younkers, squire ; sun ; bird ; ploughman.*
5. Turn the following verbs and adjectives into nouns : *freeze ; skate ; cold ; blow ; breathe ; break ; forget ; round.*
6. Give the singular of *Oxen ; kine ; ladies ; pence.*



THE GOAT.

Assumes', puts on.
Vir'tue, good quality.

Disadvan'tage, drawback.
Vent'ure, dare.



1. The goat is a near relative of the sheep; but he has longer legs and a much shorter temper. The male goats have beards. If attacked by a goat with his sharp pointed horns, the proper thing to do is to seize him by the beard, when he becomes at once *as tame as a lamb*, assumes a downcast air,

and bleats in a very pitiful tone, as if he were asking for mercy. 2. Goats, though very useful, are not as valuable as the sheep. In our country we do not eat the flesh of the goat or drink its milk, as a rule, though there are many places where people do both; and we chiefly keep goats from an idea that it is good for horses to keep company with goats. 3. Very excellent cloth can be made from their hair, and it is from the hair of these animals that are manufactured those wonderful Cashmere shawls which are made in India and are sent to all parts of the world. One of these shawls sometimes costs as much as three or four hundred pounds. The skin of the goat also makes capital leather, when tanned, and the celebrated morocco leather is made from goat-skin. 4. What has been said pretty nearly finishes the list of the services which the goat renders to man. It should be added, however, that the goat has the virtue of being anything but greedy in its habits. In fact, it is content with so little food that it has been called 'the poor man's cow;' and it is a pity that it is not more commonly kept, since the milk, though rather peculiar in taste, is very nourishing and is good for sick people.

5. In its disposition the goat is much brisker and more lively than the sheep, and we may fairly say that it is also more clever; but then it has the disadvantage of possessing a decidedly uncertain temper. A tame goat will generally behave well to any one that it knows, but it is very likely to give a dig with its sharp horns to any stranger.

who may venture within reach. 6. Goats, when wild, live in small flocks, and delight in high and rocky situations. They are splendid climbers, and clamber about with the utmost ease—with sure foot and steady eye—amongst steep and rugged cliffs, on which one would think that no animal without wings could venture to set foot.

7. A goat is generally quite at home in a stable, and a very firm friendship often arises between it and one of the horses. The goat is also able to foretell bad weather, and always contrives to place itself under shelter before the arrival of a storm.

The chamois and the ibex—which is also called the steinbock (or stone-buck)—are also goats; and they are still found wild in the Alps.

SUMMARY.

1. The goat is a near relative of the sheep, which it resembles in almost all respects. The male goats, however, and sometimes the females also, have a tuft of long hair under the chin, forming a beard. Both the males and females have a pair of horns on their head, and the horns are generally bent backwards. 2. The goat is a capital climber, and lives naturally in rocky and mountainous districts. It is not much valued in this country except for its milk; but there are many countries in which it is kept for the sake of its flesh and for its wool. 3. The wool can be woven into excellent cloth, and it is from the hair of a goat that the famous and valuable Cashmere shawls are made. Several wild goats are known in different parts of the world, and our domestic goat is believed to be descended from the wild goat of Persia.

QUESTIONS.—1. Of what other animal is the goat a near relative? 2. If a goat attacks you, what ought you to do? 3. In what ways are goats useful in other countries? 4. What is made from the hair? 5. What does a Cashmere shawl cost? 6. What is

made of the skin of the goat? 7. What kind of leather? 8. What is the goat called, from the little food it eats? 9. Where does the goat like to live when wild? 10. What can the goat foretell? 11. What two foreign animals are also goats?

DICTION.—Learn to write out:

It is from the hair of a goat that are manufactured those wonderful Cashmere shawls which are made in India.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Relative	Morocco	Disposition	Foretell
Attacked	Leather	Decidedly	Contrive
Company	Commonly	Animal	Arrival
Excellent	Peculiar	Friendship	Chamois

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 7 and 8.

3. Make adjectives out of the following nouns: *Beard; horn; uss; milk; hair; service; temper; rock; home; friend; habit; fire; storm.*

4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs: *Near; long; short; tame; keep; make; greedy; sick; clever; high; strange; arrive; climb; firm; contrive.*

5. Explain the following phrases: (1) The goat assumes a downcast air. (2) The goat has the virtue of being anything but greedy in its habits. (3) It will butt any stranger who may venture within reach. (4) It contrives to place itself under shelter before the arrival of a storm.





Ruins of Linlithgow Castle.

THE TAKING OF LINLITHGOW CASTLE.

Wit, ingenuity, cleverness.

Garr'ison, the body of soldiers in

charge of a castle.

Strong'hold, fortress or castle.

Lights upon, falls upon.

Risk, danger.

En'terprise, undertaking.

Estate', a piece of land.

1. In the reign of Edward the First, when the Scotch people fought so bravely to drive the English out of Scotland, many castles were taken on both sides by ready wit and courage. Linlithgow,¹ a strong castle, with an English governor and a very powerful garrison, was taken in this way.

2. There lived at no great distance from this strong-hold a farmer, a bold and stout man, whose name was Binnock. This man saw with great joy the progress which the Scots were making in recovering their country from the English, and made up his mind to do something to help his countrymen by getting possession, if it were possible, of the castle of Linlithgow. 3. But the place was very strong, and stood by the side of a lake; it was defended not only by gates, which were usually kept shut against strangers, but also by a portcullis. A portcullis is a sort of door formed of crossbars of iron like a grate. It has no hinges like a door, but is drawn up by pulleys, and let down when any danger approaches. It may be let go in a moment, and then falls down into the doorway; and as it has great iron spikes at the bottom, it crushes all that it lights upon; thus in case of a sudden alarm, a portcullis may be quickly let fall to defend the entrance, when it is not possible to shut the gates. 4. Binnock knew this very well, but he resolved to be provided against this risk also, when he attempted to surprise the castle.

So he spoke with some bold courageous countrymen, and engaged them in his enterprise, which he accomplished thus:

5. Binnock had been used to supply the soldiers in the castle with hay, and he had been ordered by the English governor to furnish some cart-loads of which they were in want. He promised to bring it accordingly; but the night before he drove the hay to the castle, he placed a party of his friends,

as well armed as possible, near the entrance, where they could not be seen by the garrison, and gave them directions that they should come to his assistance as soon as they should hear his signal, which was to be—‘Call all, call all!’ Then he loaded a great waggon with hay. 6. But in the waggon he placed eight strong men, well armed, lying flat on their breasts, and covered over with hay, so that they could not be seen. He himself walked carelessly beside the waggon; and he chose the stoutest and bravest of his servants to be the driver, who carried at his belt a strong axe or hatchet. 7. In this way Binnock went up to the castle early in the morning; and the watchman, who saw only two men—Binnock being one of them—with a cart of hay which they expected, opened the gates, and raised up the portcullis to permit them to enter the castle. But as soon as the cart had got under the gateway, Binnock made a sign to his servant, who with his axe suddenly cut in two the yoke which fastened the horses to the cart, and the horses finding themselves free, started forward, the cart remaining behind under the arch of the gate. 8. At the same moment, Binnock cried as loud as he could: ‘Call all, call all!’ and drawing his sword which he had under his cloak, he killed the gate-keeper. The armed men then jumped up from under the hay where they lay hid, and rushed upon the English guard. The Englishmen tried to shut the gates, but they could not, because the cart of hay remained in the gateway, and prevented the folding doors from

being closed. The portcullis was also let fall, but the grating caught on the cart, and so could not drop to the ground. 9. The men who were lying hid near the gate, hearing the signal which Binnock had promised to give them when ready for them, ran to assist those who had leaped out from amongst the hay; the castle was taken, and all the Englishmen killed or made prisoners. King Robert Bruce rewarded Binnock by giving him an estate, on which his children and children's children lived for a very long time after.

Adapted from Sir W. Scott.

EXPLANATION.—1. ‘Linlithgow’—A town about seventeen miles to the west of Edinburgh.

QUESTIONS.—1. In the reign of which king of England was Linlithgow Castle taken from the English? 2. What was the name of the farmer who lived near the castle? 3. What was the position of Linlithgow Castle, and how was it defended? 4. What is a portcullis? 5. What had Binnock been used to supply to the soldiers of the castle? 6. What was he ordered to bring to the castle on this particular occasion? 7. Where did he station a party of his friends? 8. What was his signal to them to be? 9. What did he conceal in the wagon of hay? 10. Who was the driver of the wagon? 11. Why did the watchman let them into the castle? 12. What did Binnock do as soon as the cart was under the gateway? 13. What did the horses do? 14. What happened to the gatekeeper? 15. Why could the Englishmen not shut the gates? 16. Why could the portcullis not drop to the ground? 17. What did the men who were hidden near the castle do? 18. How did King Robert Bruce reward Binnock?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words:

Reign	Portcullis	Accomplished	Fastened
Garrison	Pulleys	Assistance	Remaining
Possession	Courageous	Carelessly	Leaped
Usually	Enterprise	Hatchet	Prisoners

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 8 and 9.
3. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Wit ; courage ; joy ; progress ; help ; alarm ; surprise ; care ; fold ; promise.*
4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Brave ; drive ; strong ; distant ; possess ; possible ; quick ; arm ; cover ; permit ; enter ; try ; remain ; sign ; prevent.*
5. Explain the following phrases : (1) This man saw with great joy the progress which the Scots were making in recovering their country from the English. (2) The portcullis is let down when any danger approaches. (3) He gave them directions that they should come to his assistance. (4) King Robert Bruce rewarded Binnock by giving him an estate.

OLD CHRISTMAS.

Carle, fellow.
Regard', good feeling.
An'cient, old.
Cord'ial, hearty.

Fac'ulties, powers of mind. Grip'ing, ready to grip and grasp at everything.
--

1. Now he who knows old Christmas
He knows a carle of worth ;
For he is as good a fellow
As any upon the earth !
2. He comes warm cloaked and coated,
And buttoned up to the chin ;
And soon as he comes anigh the door,
'Twill open and let him in.
3. We know that he will not fail us,
So we sweep the hearth up clean ;
We set him the old arm-chair,
And a cushion whereon to lean.

4. And with sprigs of holly and ivy
We make the house look gay;
Just out of an old regard to him—
For it was his ancient way.
5. He comes with a cordial voice,
That does one good to hear;
He shakes one heartily by the hand,
As he hath done many a year.
6. And after the little children
He asks in a cheerful tone—
Jack, Kate, and little Annie,
He remembers them every one.
7. What a fine old fellow he is!
With his faculties all as clear,
And his heart as warm and light,
As a man in his fortieth year.
8. What a fine old fellow, in troth!
Not one of your griping elves,
Who, with plenty of money to spare,
Think only about themselves.
9. Not he! for he loveth the children,
And holiday begs for all;
And comes with his pocket full of gifts,
For the great ones and the small!
10. And he tells us witty old stories;
And singeth with might and main;
And we talk of the old man's visit
Till the day that he comes again!

Mary Howitt

DICTION.—Learn to write out the tenth verse.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Fellow	Cushion	Ancient	Heartily
Buttoned	Holly	Cordial	Faculties

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in the ninth and tenth verses.

3. Make adjectives of the following nouns : *Worth; button; heart; hand; cheer; year; wit; might; day.*

4. Make nouns of the following adjectives and verbs : *Know; good; open; fail; clean; gay; cordial; cheerful; remember; give; great; tell; sing; come.*

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) He knows a carle of worth. (2) We know that he will not fail us. (3) He comes with a cordial voice. (4) All his faculties are clear. (5) He is not one of your griping elves.

T H E P I G.

Vora'cious, fond of devouring.

Imag'inary, not real.

Result', what comes out of a

certain set of actions.

Li'bel, untrue statement.

Acc'uracy, exactness.

Discharge', perform or do.

Confin'e, coop up.

Suff'cient amount, enough.

Vict'uals, things to eat.

1. The pig is one of the most useful of animals, and yet it is one for which few people have a good word to say. Most of us are very willing to eat pork and ham, bacon and sausages ; we ride upon saddles made of pig-skin ; and we have no objection to use brushes made of pigs' bristles ; but we have only a bad character to give of the animal itself. 2. It is so 'stupid,' so 'dirty,' so 'voracious and greedy,' so 'insensible to kindness.'

and so on. Now this is hardly fair to the poor pig ; because, to speak the honest truth, these faults are either imaginary, or they are the result of bad habits which we have ourselves taught the animal.

2. To begin, the pig is not stupid. This is a mere libel, and shews that those who deny intelligence to the pig have never taken the trouble to observe its habits with accuracy. The pig is naturally quite as sagacious and clever as the majority of animals, and though probably it would never equal the dog or the horse in these respects, it can be greatly improved by training. 4. We keep our pigs closed up in their sties, and never give them a chance of associating with us ; but the Irish peasants, who live sociably with their pigs, will never speak of them as being 'stupid.' On the contrary, they have a great deal of sense, and are quite capable of being very fond of those who shew kindness to them. 5. They can even be trained like dogs to discharge certain duties ; and there is at least one instance known in which a pig was taught to follow game, just like a common pointer dog, and was found to accomplish this difficult task with the utmost accuracy. This pig often found birds that the dogs had missed. He would point a bird at the long distance of forty yards ; and, if the bird ran on, he would slowly follow up the scent, and again halt and point towards it.

6. Again, it is not the case that the pig is naturally a dirty animal. It is quite true that our tame *pigs* are often very dirty ; but this is only

because we do not give them a chance of being clean. We shut them up in a little place that they can't get out of, and which we do not take the trouble to keep clean ourselves, and then we find fault with the helpless animal because it has not the clean skin and pleasant smell of a well-trained and well-kept horse or dog. 7. In reality, the pig greatly prefers to be clean, and if any one doubts this he has only to put a bundle of clean straw into a pig-stye together with a bundle of dirty straw, and see which the animal will choose for its bed. The pig is certainly fond of rolling in the mud, but this does not at all show that the animal is fond of dirt for its own sake. All animals which have thick skins, with very little hair, like the elephant and the hippopotamus, are equally fond of wallowing in the mire, as they can in this way keep themselves cool, and not only protect themselves from the troublesome attacks of flies, but rid themselves of these pests.

8. Then as to being greedy, the pig is really no worse than most animals. There are very few animals that will not eat more than is good for them, if they get the chance. Even little boys sometimes do the same. It so happens that people who keep pigs want them to get fat, for their own purposes. They therefore give them as much food as they can eat, or more, and often very bad and nasty food it is. 9. They also at the same time confine the poor animals to such a small space *that they cannot get a sufficient amount of exercise,*

and they take care that the pigs shall have nothing to disturb them in the enjoyment of their victuals. It is hardly wonderful, therefore, that the pig should at last think of little else than eating.

10. In its natural state, however, the pig is a clean eater, and lives principally on roots which it digs up out of the ground with its snout. It is also very fond of acorns and beech-nuts, or of any kind of vegetable food ; though, if pressed by hunger, it will eat almost anything. It has a wonderful sense of smell, and it is chiefly by means of this that it finds its food on or even under the ground.

11. Our domestic pigs are descendants of the great wild-boar, which was once quite common in the woods of our own country, and is still found in the great forests of the continent of Europe. The tame pig has become so fat, and has changed so much in other ways, that we can hardly believe that it is the same as the active and powerful wild-boar, with its bristly skin and its huge tusks ; but such is really the case ; and the change after all is not greater than has been produced in many of our tame animals by keeping company with human masters.

12. The hog belongs to the same family—the ‘thick-skinned’ family—as the elephant. Like the elephant, it is possessed of powerful tusks, and of a movable nose. The head of the wild-boar is wedge-shaped, because it requires this form of head to pierce the dense bushes and thickets in which it lives. A wild-boar will charge at a

thicket into which a man could not pierce, and disappear within it like a flash of lightning. He is almost as fleet as a horse; and so nimble that he can leap a paling nine feet high.

SUMMARY.

1. The pig, like the horse and the cow, is a ‘hoofed’ animal. Each foot has two toes, covered by hoofs, upon which it walks, and there are also two small toes on the back of each foot which do not touch the ground. Unlike the cow, the pig does not ‘chew the cud,’ and it has no horns on its head.
2. It lives principally upon fruits, roots, and vegetable matters of all kinds ; but it will eat flesh if pressed by hunger. It is naturally a clean animal, but often lives in a very dirty state in domestication. Its nose is short and very strong, and the animal uses it for grubbing in the earth in search of roots.
3. The skin is very thick, and has very little hair upon it, and its tail is short. The male pig is called a ‘boar,’ and the female pig is known as a ‘sow.’ The domestic pig is descended from the ‘wild-boar,’ an animal which is still found in many of the forests of Europe, though it has long been exterminated in Britain.
4. The wild-boar has enormous eye-teeth, which form most formidable tusks ; and the animal can inflict very serious wounds with these weapons upon its enemies.

QUESTIONS.—1. Tell me some of the things generally said against the pig. 2. What does the Irishman say of him ? 3. What duties have pigs been trained to ? 4. Tell me about the pointer pig. 5. Prove that the pig is not naturally dirty. 6. Why does the pig like to wallow in the mire ? 7. Why are pigs generally greedy ? 8. What does the pig eat in his natural state ? 9. How does it find the roots it feeds on ? 10. Where is the wild-boar still found ? 11. To what family does the pig belong ? 12. In what two points is it like the elephant ? 13. How fast can a wild-boar run ? 14. Why is his head wedge-shaped ? **15. How high can he leap ?**

DICTION.—Learn to write out :

The pig is neither stupid, nor dirty, nor voracious, nor insensible to kindness by nature; but all these vices have been taught him by ourselves.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Objection	Sagacious	Pleasant	Vegetable
Character	Associating	Wallow	Continent
Voracious	Peasants	Purposes	Elephant
Imaginary	Accuracy	Victuals	Lightning

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in section 12.

3. Make adjectives of the following nouns : *Pig ; use ; dirt ; greed ; trouble ; habit ; duty ; help ; hair ; space ; joy ; wonder ; sense ; wood ; act ; change ; master ; bush.*

4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Useful ; good ; willing ; stupid ; voracious ; troublesome ; choose ; accurate ; clever ; high ; sagacious ; keep ; great ; cleanly ; please ; confine ; enjoy ; move ; press ; disappear ; believe ; produce.*

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) These faults are imaginary. (2) The pig is as clever as the majority of animals. (3) The Irish peasant lives sociably with his pig. (4) The pig can accomplish this difficult task with the utmost accuracy. (5) He has nothing to disturb him in the enjoyment of his victuals. (6) He is almost as fleet as a horse.





MORNING AFTER RAIN.

[This is a description of a bright morning in the Lake Country, in Cumberland and Westmoreland.]

1. There was a roaring in the wind all night—
The rain came heavily and fell in floods ;
But now the sun is rising calm and bright—
The birds are singing in the distant woods ;
Over his own sweet voice the stock-dove
broods ;
The jay makes answer as the magpie chatters ;
And all the air is filled with pleasant noise o
waters.

1 All things that love the sun are out of doors;
 The sky rejoices in the morning's birth;
 The grass is bright with rain-drops; on the
 moors
 The hare is running races in her mirth,
 And with her feet she from the plashy earth
 Raises a mist that, glittering in the sun,
 Runs with her all the way, wherever she doth
 run.

Wordsworth.

FIDEILITY.

Mr'day, an uprising or insurrection against a government or ruler.	Absorbed', much taken up with (literally, sucked in).
Residents, people who reside or live in a place.	Items, pieces, details, or particulars.
Suppress'ion, putting down.	Discuss'ing, talking about things.
Sub'urbs, places outside but near a town.	Repetition, saying over and over again.
Bejoin', come to him again.	Tenacious, sticking to a thing.

1 Sir Henry Havelock was one of the bravest soldiers and ablest generals that this country has produced. He did splendid work during the mutiny in India in 1857, and was one of the generals who, by rapid marches, came to the relief of the small body of British troops that, with women and children, and other residents, were shut up in Lucknow, and exposed to a hail of shot and shells, which ceased neither day nor night.

2 Soon after the suppression of the mutiny, he was allowed leave of absence, and came over to this

country for a short time. He took a house in one of the suburbs of London. One morning after breakfast he set out for the City on important business, taking with him his son, a little boy of about eleven years of age; and as his business might occupy a good deal of time, his intention was to return late in the evening. 3. The two were soon in the heart of the great city, among the hundreds of thousands who every hour stream along its streets. Suddenly, when at the north or City end of London Bridge, a thought struck the father, and he requested his son to remain where he was until he should rejoin him—which he promised to do in a very short time. 4. Sir Henry was quickly absorbed in the transaction of the different items of business which had drawn him to the city. He went from street to street, and from office to office, making arrangements and discussing details with different persons; and his whole mind was filled with what he had to do. The press of work and discussion entirely drove his promise to his son out of his mind. He finished his business, and made his way home to his house in the distant suburb.

5. It was late in the evening when he got home; and one of the first questions put to him on entering was: ‘But where is Henry?’

‘Dear me!’ he cried, ‘I’ve quite forgotten him; he must be at London Bridge still; I must go and fetch him at once.’

‘O do sit down and have something to eat,’ said his wife.

'Certainly not ; I must not leave him there a minute longer than I can help.' He hurried off, and made his way as speedily as he could by the same route which he had taken in the morning. He reached the bridge at midnight.

6. There, on the very spot he had left him twelve hours before, he found his faithful son pacing quietly up and down till his father should come to rejoin him. Hour after hour had passed away, each hour becoming longer, more weary, and more leaden-footed than the last. But the boy stuck to his post. Day declined to evening, and evening passed into night. 7. The city church-clocks tolled with heart-wearying repetition the hours as they passed by ; but the boy did not think of moving. Light came out after light ; and the long lines of lamps streamed their broken reflections on the cold flowing river. But the boy quietly paced up and down, and stuck to his post. Tens of thousands of human faces swept past him ; and he looked in vain for the face of his father among them. He began to feel cold and hungry—he was only eleven—and quite tired out ; but he knew that his father would come, because he had made a promise.

8. Well, the boy was very glad when it was over ; and the father was very glad to find his son at his post, and very sorry to think that he had forgotten his promise to him for so long. Many years after, in India, the son proved himself on several battle-fields to be as brave and tenacious *and honourable as a soldier as he had been when*

a boy ; and he now wears the high distinction of the ' Victoria Cross for valour in the face of the enemy.'



Feeding the Poultry.

DUCKS AND HENS.

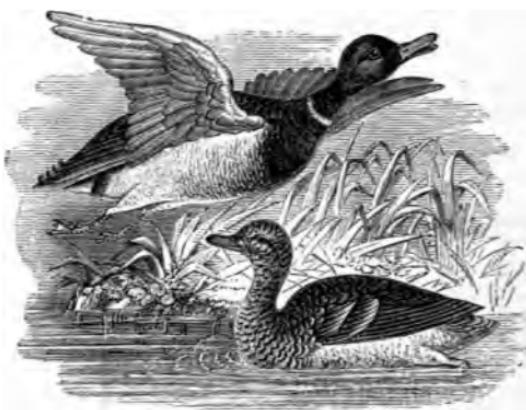
Concern', care and anxiety.
Down, the soft hair under the
feathers of fowls.
Marsh'y, wet or boggy.

Plum'age, feathers. Tremend'ous, terrible. Is famil'iar with, knows well. Gigan'tic, of huge size.

1. Ducks and hens are found together in every farm-yard, living in perfect peace with one another. ***Nothing***, however, could be more unlike than the

habits and mode of life of these useful and valuable birds. The ducks are regular water-birds, being capital swimmers and divers; whereas hens live upon the land, and will not put a foot into the water if they can help it. 2. Sometimes the farmer's wife puts the eggs of a duck under a hen, and the poor bird never knows the difference at the time. When the little yellow ducklings come forth out of the eggs, they can run about at once, and they soon take to the water and paddle about in it as if they were quite at home. 3. The anxious hen never seems to think that she is not the true mother of the little ducklings, and she can only watch their goings on with the utmost concern and distress. It is of no use, however, for her to run up and down on the bank of the pond, calling upon her brood to return to dry land. They are quite happy and comfortable in the water, and they pay no attention to her at all. 4. If we look at a duck we can see why it is that it can swim so well. Its toes are all joined together by the skin, so that its foot can be used to strike the water, just like the broad blade of an oar. The bird can use its feet the better for this purpose, because its legs are placed far back on its body, giving them great power as paddles. For the same reason, the duck walks upon the dry ground in an awkward and clumsy way, whilst its movements in the water are very free and graceful. 5. One would think that the ducks would get quite cold with being in the water so much, and that *their feathers would get wet*; but this is not the

case at all. The feathers are always dry, because the bird keeps them well oiled, so that the water just runs off them ; and it is always warm, because it has a very thick coat of feathers and soft down, which prevents the water reaching its skin, whilst its legs are covered with horny plates. 6. Ducks feed upon small insects, worms, and any kind of scraps which they find in the mud at the bottom of



Wild-duck or Mallard, Male and Female.

the water. They are not particular as to their food, but swallow almost everything that comes in their way. When they are looking for food, they turn head-over-heels in the water, with their tails above the surface and all the rest of their body below. They then grope about in the mud with their broad soft bills to secure their food. 7. In fact they *feel* with their bills what is in the mud, just as we should do if we were to use our

fingers. If we watch a duck feeding in a roadside gutter, we shall see it taking in a quantity of dirty water with its bill, and squirting it out again by the sides. In this there is a beautiful adaptation to the wants of the bird. The inside of the bill is lined on each side with fine plates, placed closely together, which act as a sieve by retaining the food and allowing the water and useless matter to escape. This is precisely the way too in which the whale feeds.

8. The parent of our tame ducks is the common wild-duck or Mallard, a very beautiful bird found in marshy districts and by the sea-shore in many parts of our country. The male ducks are called the drakes, and have beautifully coloured feathers. There are many different sorts of tame ducks, and they are very useful to us, both for their eggs and for their flesh.

9. There are very many things in which hens are very different from ducks. Their feet are not 'webbed'—that is to say, the toes are not joined by the skin; and this shews that the hen is not intended to live in the water. On the other hand, its legs are set more in the middle of its body in the hen than in the duck, so that it is a good walker. The toes have strong blunt nails, with which the hen scratches up the ground, and turns up the grains of corn and seeds which lie buried in the earth, and upon which it feeds.

10. The cock has a great red 'wattle' on his head, his plumage is very beautiful, and his legs are armed with pointed pieces of bone, which are called 'spurs,' and with which he can fight his

enemies. Cocks have tremendous battles, and they can kill each other by a well-aimed blow with their sharp spurs.

11. Ducks 'quack,' hens 'cackle,' and the cock 'crows,' and everybody is familiar with these sounds who has ever been inside a farm-yard. There are very many different kinds of hens, from the gigantic Cochin-China fowl to the little quarrelsome bantam; but they are all useful to us, both to eat and for their eggs. They seem to be descended from a beautiful wild bird which is called the 'jungle-cock' and is found in Java.

SUMMARY.

1. The duck belongs to the family of what are called the 'swimming birds.' Its toes are 'webbed,' or united by the skin, so as to form capital oars or paddles. It walks badly on the land, but is a first-rate swimmer. Its bill is broad and soft, and with this instrument it searches amongst the soft mud at the bottom of ponds and streams, and in gutters, for worms and other kinds of food. 2. The duck is like the hen in not being a good flier, though wild-ducks can fly far and well. It is valued for its flesh and its eggs. There are many kinds of tame ducks, but they are mostly descended from the common wild-duck or from the teal. The male duck is called the 'drake.'

3. The hen belongs to the family of what are called the 'scratching birds.' This family includes a great many other birds, such as the peacock, turkey, Guinea-fowl, pheasant, partridge, grouse, and doves; and this name is given to them because they have strong blunt claws on their toes, which they use in scratching up the earth in search of the seeds on which they feed. 4. The hen, like all its near relations, is a ground-bird, seldom perching in trees, and rarely rising into the air. It has a heavy body and short wings, so that it *flies badly*. 5. The hen is a most valuable bird, both its

eggs and its flesh affording an excellent food ; while its feathers are very useful for stuffing pillows. There are many kinds of domestic hens, but they seem to be all descended from the jungle-fowl of Java.

QUESTIONS.—1. What is the chief difference between ducks and hens ? 2. What happens sometimes to a mother hen ? 3. Why can a duck swim so well ? 4. Where are its feet placed ? 5. Why does it not walk so well ? 6. Why does a duck not get cold in the water ? 7. What do ducks feed on ? 8. In what manner do they obtain their food ? 9. What is the original parent of our common tame duck ? 10. What kind of feet has the hen ? 11. Tell me what you know about the appearance of the cock. 12. What cries have these kinds of tame fowls ? 13. Tell me the biggest kind of hen. 14. The smallest.

DICINATION.—Learn to write out :

The toes of a duck are all joined together by the skin, so that its foot can be used to strike the water, just like the broad blade of an oar.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Valuable	Comfortable	Retaining	Tremendous
Capital	Awkward	Beautifully	Gigantic
Difference	Movements	Webbed	Quarrelsome
Anxious	Particular	Adaptation	Descended

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 12 and 13.

3. Turn the following nouns into adjectives : *Peace ; use ; value ; water ; home ; mother ; distress ; skin ; body ; grace ; feather ; mud ; bone.*

4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Live ; swim ; know ; different ; anxious ; happy ; attentive ; pay ; strike ; broad ; free ; cover ; feel ; useful ; bury ; feed ; brave ; fly ; deep.*

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) The hen watches their goings on with the utmost concern and distress. (2) The duck walks upon the dry ground in an awkward and clumsy way. (3) Geese can kill each other by a well-aimed blow with their sharp wings.

BIRDS IN SUMMER.

Flitting, moving rapidly.

Beauteous, good and pleasant.

Traverse, cross up and down, or travel through.

Sway, move backwards and forwards.

List o' th, pleases.

Cresting, flying about on the top or crest of the billows.

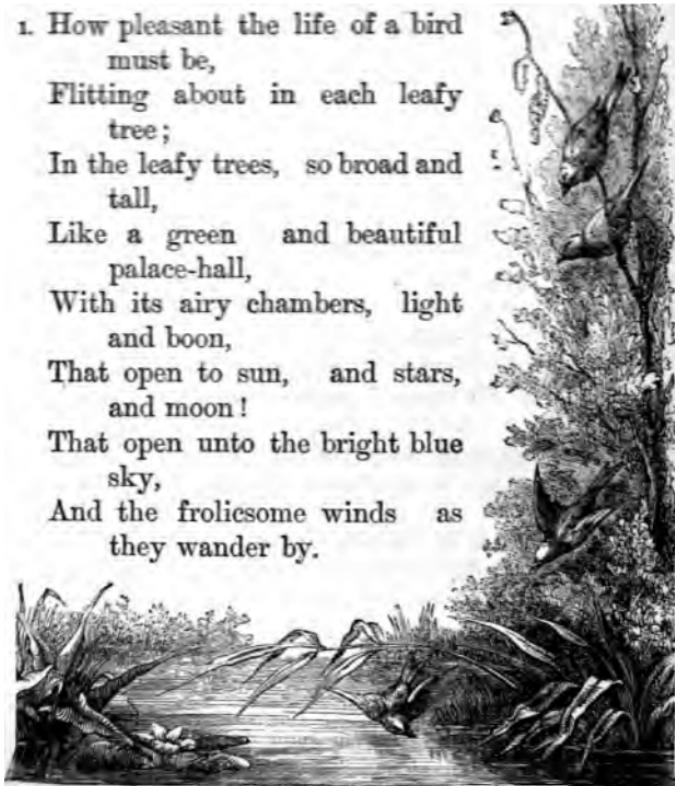
Shaft, arrow.

Boundless, without beginning or ending; without limits.

Wastes, waste places.

Regions, countries.

- How pleasant the life of a bird must be,
Flitting about in each leafy tree;
In the leafy trees, so broad and tall,
Like a green and beautiful palace-hall,
With its airy chambers, light and boon,
That open to sun, and stars, and moon!
That open unto the bright blue sky,
And the frolicsome winds as they wander by.



2 They have left their nests in the forest bough ;
 Those homes of delight they need not now ;
 And the young and the old they wander out,
 And traverse their green world round about :
 And hark ! at the top of this leafy hall,
 How one to the other they lovingly call ;
 'Come up, come up !' they seem to say,
 'Where the topmost twigs in the breezes sway !'

3. 'Come up, come up, for the world is fair,
 Where the merry leaves dance in the summer
 air !'
 And the birds below give back the cry :
 'We come, we come, to the branches high !'
 How pleasant the life of a bird must be,
 Flitting about in a leafy tree ;
 And away through the air what joy to go,
 And to look on the bright green earth below.'

4 How pleasant the life of a bird must be,
 Wherever it listeth, there to flee ;
 To go, when a joyful fancy calls,
 Dashing adown 'mong the waterfalls,
 Then wheeling about with its mates at play,
 Above and below, and among the spray,
 Hither and thither, with screams as wild
 As the laughing mirth of a rosy child !

5. How pleasant the life of a bird must be,
 Skimming about on the breezy sea,
 Cresting the billows like silvery foam,
 And then wheeling away to its cliff-built home !

What joy it must be to sail, upborne
By a strong free wing, through the rosy morn,



To meet the young sun, face to face,
And pierce like a shaft the boundless space !

a. What joy it must be, like a living breeze,
To flutter about 'mong the flowering trees ;
Lightly to soar, and to see beneath
The wastes of the blossoming purple heath,
And the yellow furze, like fields of gold,
That gladden some fairy regions old !
On mountain tops, on the billowy sea,
On the leafy stems of the forest tree,
How pleasant the life of a bird must be !

Mary Howitt.

QUESTIONS.—1. To what are the leafy trees said to be like ?
 2. To what are the airy chambers of this hall said to be open ?
 3. When the birds get to the top of their leafy hall, what do they say to each other ? 4. What do the birds below say in answer ?
 5. What is said about the delights of the sea-bird ? 6. Where do some sea-birds build their nests ? 7. To what is a sea-bird compared when it flies out to meet the rising sun ? 8. What kind of sport has a bird among waterfalls ? 9. What colours does the bird see on the waste places of the country ? 10. In what different places has the poet described the life of a bird ?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Pleasant	Frolicsome	Wherever	Blossoming
Beautiful	Bough	Pierce	Mountain
Palace	Traverse	Flowering	Billowy

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in verse 4.

3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Tree ; hall ; sun ; winds ; birds ; leaves ; air.*

4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Birds ; wind ; sun ; arrow ; child ; breeze.*

5. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Sun ; top ; leaf ; breeze ; billow ; mirth ; space ; joy ; beauty ; air ; frolic ; delight ; earth.*

6. Make nouns out of the following adjectives : *Young ; pleasant ; broad ; free ; bright ; strong ; merry ; green.*

7. Explain the following phrases : (1) They need not those homes of delight. (2) What joy it is to pierce like a shaft the boundless space. (3) A joyful fancy calls the birds to dash down among the waterfalls.





Noontide Rest.

T H E H O R S E.

Domes'tic an'mals, home animal's
(as opposed to wild).

Intell'gent, thoughtful, and with
the power of knowing one
thing from another.

Prompt'itude, readiness and quick-
ness.

Fal'con, a kind of hawk.

Surpassed', beaten.

Confus'es, perplexes and makes
stupid.

Endur'ance, power of holding out.
Sagac'ity, good sense.

Insens'ible, without sense or con-
sciousness.

Prostrate, lying on the ground.

Feroc'ity, fierceness.

Resumed', began again.

1. The horse is the noblest of all the animals that man has succeeded in completely taming. He is *the proudest*, the most high-spirited, and the most

courageous of all our domestic animals; and he is at the same time one of the most intelligent and obedient. The horse knows his own master and loves him; and, when he is treated with kindness, he shews himself capable of the truest and greatest affection. 2. The horse seems to have been tamed at a very early period, and no one knows with certainty from what country he originally came. Wild horses, as they are called, are found in immense herds in both Asia and America; but many people are of opinion that these are tame horses that have run wild, for it is known that when the Spaniards first landed in America there were no horses in that country; and the Indians, who had never seen any one on horseback before, thought that the man and the horse belonged to one another, and formed parts of some new, strange, and unheard-of animal.

3. In Tartary, wild horses are also found in herds of many thousands in number, each herd acting under the command of a single leader, and carrying out his orders with the exactness and promptitude of a regiment of soldiers. The Tartars catch these wild horses with the help of a falcon, who swoops down on the horse's head, flutters his wings about his face, and so confuses him that he is easily caught. 4. The Tartars not only ride their horses, but they drink their milk and eat their flesh, so that they serve them instead of cattle. In our country, however, we only use the horse as a beast of burden, either for riding or for drawing carriages and waggons. The largest

horses that we have are the great dray-horses, and the smallest are the little Shetland ponies, some of which are no bigger than a good-sized dog. 5. The English race-horses and the Arab horses are famous for their extraordinary speed. Some of the most celebrated race-horses have been known to run a mile in a minute—a rate faster than the ordinary



A Race-horse.

rate of running of an express train, and not surpassed by the performance of any other animal except the ostrich and some of the most powerful birds of flight. 6. The Arab horses also exhibit a wonderful power of endurance, and are petted and cared for by their masters as if they belonged to the family. Indeed, the Arab makes his horse his true friend, in return for which the gallant steed shews the greatest affection, not only for the owner, but for every member of his family.

7. The horse takes a high rank amongst the *domestic animals* for its sagacity and intelligence.

He understands what his master says to him, and what he is intended to do. Horses have a capital memory, and will find their way home if they have but once passed over the same road, even on the darkest night. They are also able to think what ought to be done when something unexpected happens to them or to their riders. 8. For instance, a gentleman had once been paying a visit to a friend, whose house lay in the centre of a large forest. On his return home, the night was very dark; and he unfortunately struck his head, as he rode through the wood, against the overhanging branch of a tree, and was dashed out of the saddle stunned and insensible. The horse finding that he could do no good by remaining with his prostrate master, galloped off to the house which they had left, and which was about a mile away. 9. He found the door closed, and the lights out, as everybody had gone to bed; but by repeated blows of his fore-feet upon the door he succeeded in rousing the owner of the house, who, on opening the door, was surprised to see only the horse of his friend. He at once suspected, however, that some accident had occurred, and as the horse at once turned and commenced to walk away from the house, he followed him till the faithful animal led him directly to the spot where his rider still lay motionless on the ground. By this intelligence on the part of the horse, his rider's life was probably saved.

10. The best-bred horses are generally very affectionate, and easily make friends with the

nearest living being. A famous race-horse, that would not let any one go near him without using both his heels and his teeth—and called from his ferocity the ‘Mad Arabian’—had a little lamb as his most intimate friend, whom he allowed to take any liberties with him. 11. Another horse was strongly attached to a cat, who usually sat upon his back. When the horse died, the cat gradually pined away and soon followed his beloved friend. 12. Horses are also very ingenious. A mare and her colt were in the habit of robbing an orchard. The mare would go up to one of the apple-trees and throw herself with great force against the trunk, when a shower of apples came tumbling down; then mother and son set to work on the fallen apples, and when they had munched up these, they resumed their operations on some other tree.

SUMMARY.

1. The horse is a ‘hoofed’ animal—that is to say, the end of each toe is covered by a great sheath of horn, which forms a flat hoof, upon which the animal walks. It has only one toe on each foot, but it has two other small toes hidden under the skin. 2. It is intended to live entirely upon grass and other vegetable substances, as is shewn by the fact that the back-teeth are all broad and flat. Many domestic horses in America and Asia have escaped from their keepers and now live in a wild state. 3. From its great strength, and the ease with which it is domesticated, the horse is one of the most useful of all animals to man. It is principally used as a beast of burden; but there are countries in which its flesh is eaten, or its milk is drunk. The nearest relatives of the horse are the donkey, the wild ass, the zebra, and the quagga.

QUESTIONS.—1. What are the points in which the horse is

superior to the other domestic animals ? 2. When was the horse first tamed ? 3. Where are wild horses found ? 4. In what sense are they *wild* ? 5. Who brought the horse first to America ? 6. What did the Indians think when they first saw a man on horseback ? 7. How are the wild horses of Tartary managed ? 8. How are they caught ? 9. In what way does the horse serve the Tartar besides being a beast of burden ? 10. What are our largest horses ? 11. What are our smallest ? 12. At what rate can the swiftest race-horses run ? 13. What does the Arab make of his horse ? 14. What does the horse shew in return ? 15. Shew how horses have a good memory. 16. Tell the story of the gentleman who was thrown from his horse in the centre of a large forest. 17. What animal did the Mad Arabian take for his friend ? 18. What animal was the friend of another horse ? 19. What happened when this horse died ? 20. Tell the story of the mare robbing an orchard.

DICTION.—Learn to write out :

The horse is high-spirited, courageous, affectionate, intelligent, and obedient. He needs neither whip nor spur when he is treated with kindness.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Certainty	Extraordinary	Capital	Attached
Originally	Celebrated	Insensible	Usually
Promptitude	Exhibit	Prostrate	Gradually
Regiment	Gallant	Succeeded	Ingenious

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 11 and 12.

3. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Horse ; Spaniard ; Tartars ; falcon ; race-horse ; the Arab ; pony ; master ; lamb ; cat ; orchard.*

4. Turn the following nouns into adjectives : *Pride ; spirit ; courage ; intelligence ; fame ; wonder ; power ; force ; friend ; faith ; ferocity.*

5. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Move ; know ; certain ; strange ; lead ; ride ; carry ; endure ; try ; deep ; high ; dark ; succeed ; free ; rob ; thieve.*

6. Explain the following phrases: (1) He shews himself capable of the greatest affection. (2) They carry out his orders with promptitude. (3) The Arab exhibits a wonderful power of endurance. (4) It was useless remaining with his prostrate master. (5) They resumed operations on another tree.



A SUMMER EVENING.

Taking leave, bidding good-bye.
Hudd'ling, huddled or crowded
up.
Slow-worm, a small and innocent
kind of snake.

Butt'on, button themselves up.
Swains, country people.
Seams, marks of the plough.
Wealed, marked with the whip.

1. The sinking sun is taking leave,
And sweetly gilds the edge of eve,

While huddling clouds of purple dye
Hang gloomy on the western sky ;
Rooks fly croaking over head,
Hast'ning to the woods to bed.
Cooing sits the lonely dove,
Calling home her absent love.

2. Now the slow-worm creeps along,
And the bird's forgot his song :
Flowers now sleep within their hoods,
Daisies button into buds ;
From drenching dew the buttercup
Shuts his golden jewels up ;
And the rose and woodbine they
Wait again the smiles of day.
3. 'Neath the willow's wavy boughs,
Dolly, singing, milks the cows ;
While the brook, as bubbling by
Joins in murmur'ring melody.
Swains to fold their sheep begin ;
Collie careful drives them in.
4. Hedgers now along the road
Homeward bend beneath their load ;
And, from the long-furrowed seams,
Ploughmen loose their weary teams :
Ball, with urging lashes wealed,
Still so slow to drive afield,
Eager blundering from the plough,
Wants no whip to drive him now ;
At the stable door he stands,
Looking round for friendly hands.

To loose the door-way's fast'ning pin,
And let him to his corn begin.

QUESTIONS.—1. What kind of clouds does this poem say are seen in the west ? 2. What are the rooks doing ? 3. And the dove ? 4. What have the daisies and buttercups made of themselves ? 5. What is Dolly doing ? 6. What are the hedgers about ? 7. What are the ploughmen busy with ? 8. How does Ball go to his stable ? 9. When he gets to the door, what does he wait for ?

DICTATION.—Learn to write out :

*At the stable-door Ball stands,
Looking round for friendly hands
To loose the door-way's fast'ning pin,
And let him to his corn begin.*

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Huddling	Croaking	Daisies	Furrowed
Hastening	Cooing	Buttercup	Blundering

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in the last verse.

3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Sun ; sky ; dove ; daisies ; jewels ; cows ; dogs ; hedgers ; ploughmen ; horses.*

4. Add verbs to the above nouns.

5. Make adjectives out of the following words : *Gloom ; wood ; startle ; dew ; grass ; sleep ; smile ; sheep ; friend ; hand.*

6. Make nouns out of the following words : *Gild ; hasten ; absent ; sweet ; forget ; bubbling ; slow ; begin.*

7. Explain the following phrases : (1) The sun is taking leave. (2) Hedgers bend homeward beneath their load. (3) Ball is looking round for friendly hands to loose the pin.



THE STOLEN PEACHES.

Plot, a piece of ground.

Rudd'y, red.

Bloom, a look of freshness.

Down'y, covered with down.

Pluck, to pick.

Henceforth, from this time, or for
the future.

Guilt'y, sinful, wicked.

1. Charlie was the son of good and kind parents. It was his birthday, and beautiful autumn weather. His parents loaded him with presents, and permitted him to bring some of his school-fellows to play with him.

2. They played about in the garden. There Charlie had a little plot of his own, rich with flowers and fruit. On the opposite wall there grew a peach-tree, which was *not* his, but his father's; and this he had been told he must not touch.

3. The peaches were ripe, and a ruddy bloom blushed through their downy skin. 'What could be more delightful!' thought the boys.

'Why not just taste them?' said they to Charlie. 'There's no harm in it. Besides, is this not your birthday? Surely you can do as you like once a year at least.'

4. 'No!' said Charlie; 'I am forbidden to touch those peaches; that's enough for me; but take what you like from my own plot, and welcome.'

Then said the eldest of the boys: 'Very likely Charlie is quite right; but let *us* pluck the peaches, and perhaps he will help us to eat them.'

5. So Charlie at last agreed to this, and he was by no means unwilling to share the feast.

When the peaches were all eaten, and the boys

gone, Charlie began to feel he had done wrong ; he stayed in the garden alone and wretched, and had never been so sad and miserable all his life long.

6. At last his father came into the garden, and called out, ‘Charlie ! Charlie !’

Charlie stood at the end of the garden, a picture of misery. His father went to him, and in passing the peach-tree he saw what had been done. His face grew sad and angry.

7. Then said his father : ‘Is this your birthday, and is this the return you make us for all our care and kindness ?’

Charlie was dumb.

‘Henceforth the garden is locked to you,’ said his father. He then led Charlie into the house, and went away in displeasure.

8. Charlie went off to bed, but not to sleep. He turned and tossed this way and that, but the whole night long he could not sleep.

Next morning Charlie was so pale and sad that his mother had pity on him. 9. So she said to her husband : ‘Charlie is sorry, but he thinks the “locked garden” means that you have locked your heart against him.’

‘He is quite right,’ was the reply ; ‘I *have* locked my heart against him.’

‘How sad,’ sighed the mother ; ‘he has begun the new year of his life with sorrow.’

‘That it may become more full of joy, let us hope,’ said the father.

10. By-and-by the mother said : ‘I am afraid Charlie will doubt our love for him.’

'I hope not,' said her husband. 'Although he feels he is guilty, I do not think he would wish to throw the blame on us. Till now he always had our love, and he will learn to prize it for the future by having to win it back again.'

11. The following morning Charlie came down to breakfast calmly and cheerfully. He carried a basket in his hand, full of all the toys and presents his parents had given him.

'What do you mean by this?' asked his father. Charlie answered: 'I give these back to you, for I do not deserve them.' Then the father unlocked his heart, and happiness came back to them all again.

Krummacher.

QUESTIONS.—1. What time of the year did Charlie's birthday fall in? 2. Name the autumn months. 3. What had Charlie's parents done to make this birthday a happy one? 4. What grew in Charlie's own little garden? 5. Where did his father's peach-tree grow? 6. How large is a peach—is it larger or smaller than a plum? 7. What sort of skin has it? 8. Who first persuaded Charlie to touch the peaches? 9. Why did he refuse to do so? 10. Who did pick them? 11. Did Charlie eat any? 12. Why did he stay out in the garden alone? 13. What did his father say when he saw what had happened? 14. Did Charlie sleep well that night? 15. Why did his mother pity him when he came down in the morning? 16. What did the father hope might be the result of Charlie's present sorrow? 17. What was it that was to make Charlie prize his parents' love for the future? 18. How did he try to shew that he really felt sorry for his fault?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words:

Beautiful	Schoalfellow	Wretched	Sorrow
Autumn	Opposite	Displeasure	Although
Weather	Agreed	Sighed	Breakfast

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 10 and 11.

which ex'
'Godolph'.
horse die
friend till
away, it
dead a few
another c
between a
the horse t
the horse'.
horse, in t
and so und
sleep, as le
without ly:
be so bad f
obliged to :

ii. There
truth in it:
that, where
and thought
sagacious; w
becomes sav
the ease wi
very liberal;
food, and wh
mulish, and s
also of the o
she becomes
several huma
have expecte
been known
puppies, rabbi



3. Add adjectives to the following nouns: *Birthday; autumn; present; plot; fruit; peach; year; feast; life; picture; face; misery.*

4. Make adjectives out of the following nouns: *Father; care; kindness; displeasure; sleep; pity; heart; mother; year; sorrow; love; blame; hand; happiness.*

5. Make nouns out of the following verbs: *Loaded; grew; blushed; like; agreed; feel; stood; locked; sighed; think; learn; given; mean; answered.*

6. Explain the following phrases: (1) He was by no means unwilling to share the feast. (2) Charlie was a picture of misery. (3) Charlie was dumb. (4) You have locked your heart against him. (5) Charlie will doubt our love for him.



T H E D O N K E Y.

Ob'stinate, self-willed, and deter-	Recognise', make out.
mined not to listen to reason.	Mal'ice, ill-will or bad feeling.
Evad'ed, went aside from.	

1. The donkey is a kind of first cousin to the horse. This may perhaps look like putting the

donkey too near the horse ; but all depends upon the kind of donkey and the kind of horse that we compare. If we take an ill-fed, ill-treated, spiritless English donkey, stunted in its growth and obstinate in its temper, it is hard to believe that it is so near a relation of the large, well-fed, and spirited dray-horse, which is attached to his master and obeys his slightest word. 2. If, however, we compare a common donkey with the little shaggy Shetland pony, we can at once see that the difference is not so great after all. There are also countries, such as Spain, in which the donkey is well cared for and thought a good deal of ; and there we find that it grows to the size of a large pony, is powerful and even noble-looking, and sleek of hair, so that it is much more like a horse than our British donkeys are. In fact, the Spanish donkey is much larger than the ordinary English ass. 3. Still we can never mistake a donkey for a horse. We can always recognise the donkey by his long ears, by his having a tuft of long hair at the end of his tail, and by there being a black stripe running down the back, crossed at the shoulders by another stripe. If we still were in doubt, the animal would only have to open his mouth to settle the question, for the *bray* of the donkey is not at all like the *neigh* of the horse.

4. The wild ass is probably the original parent of the domestic ass, and is found wandering over the deserts of Asia in great herds. When they are attacked by a band of wolves, they place themselves in a circle, with the younger and weaker

ones in the middle—heads inward, and a compact circle of powerful heels without—and defend themselves so well by kicking and biting that they nearly always beat off their enemy. 5. The wild ass has shorter ears and a lighter colour than the domestic ass, and is an altogether finer and more spirited animal. The fact is, however, that we have never given the donkey a chance; that we have ill-treated it for so many hundreds of years that we have made it much worse both in body and in temper than God had made it by nature. 6. Let us listen to what the great French naturalist Buffon says about the donkey: ‘Why,’ says he, ‘do we look down so much upon an animal so good, so patient, so contented, and so useful? Can it be that men despise, even in animals, those who are willing to serve them too well and at too little expense? We give the horse a regular education; he is cared for, trained, and exercised; whilst the ass is handed over to the mercy of the lowest servant, or to the malice of children, and so far from improving by education, he seems almost always to be the worse for it. 7. If he had not possessed a great many good qualities to begin with, he would have lost them all in consequence of the treatment he has received. He is too often the plaything and the drudge of his master, who drives him, beats him, overloads him, and tires him out, without care and without mercy. People do not seem to remember that the ass would be the best and the most useful of animals, if there had been *no such animal in the world as the horse.*’

8. The ass is mild, humble, and patient, and will put up with very cruel usage without resenting it. Occasionally, however, the donkey will turn upon his tormentors, and he sometimes shews a good deal of cleverness in his way of revenging himself, for he is by no means the stupid and thick-headed animal it pleases ignorant people to think him.
9. This was well shewn in a fight which once took place between a donkey and a bull-dog. The dog belonged to a cruel man, who thought it would be very good fun to set it on the unoffending donkey, and it was not to be supposed that the dog would be any better than its master. 10. The donkey, however, evaded the first spring of the bull-dog, and cleverly seized him in his teeth. He then carried the now helpless dog to a river which was close at hand, plunged him under the water, and lying down on the top of him, kept him under water till he was fairly drowned.

11. The quagga and the zebra, which are found in South Africa, are both wild asses. The stripes of the quagga are not so clearly marked as those of the zebra. The flesh and skin of the quagga are highly prized by the natives of Southern Africa; and they are therefore very fond of hunting it. The quagga lives in large herds.

SUMMARY.

1. The donkey or ass is an animal very closely related to the horse. It resembles the horse in the fact that each foot has only one toe, and each toe is covered with a single broad hoof, on which the animal walks. In its general form, and in the nature of its teeth, it is also quite like the horse. 2. It differs

from its nobler relative in its smaller size and longer ears, in the peculiar nature of its cry, in having a dark stripe down the back and another across the shoulders, and in the fact that its tail is not covered all over with long hairs, but has a tuft of long hairs at its end. 3. The domestic ass is probably the descendant of the wild ass of Asia, and though inferior in size and strength to the larger varieties of the horse, it is still a most useful and patient beast of burden. From long-continued ill treatment the ass in Britain has become reduced in size.

QUESTIONS.—1. What relation does the donkey seem to be to the horse? 2. What two of each kind seem to be nearest to each other in look and size? 3. What is the size of the Spanish ass? 4. What are the chief marks of a donkey? 5. What are the cries of the horse and the donkey called? 6. How do the wild asses of Asia defend themselves against wolves? 7. Tell the story of the donkey and the bull-dog? 8. What two animals in South Africa belong to the family of the ass?

DICTION.—Learn to write out :

The donkey is first cousin to the horse. If he had not possessed a great many good qualities to begin with, he would have lost them all in consequence of the treatment he has received.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Cousin	Neigh	Patient	People
Obstinate	Original	Malice	Unoffending
Difference	Altogether	Education	Seized
Recognise	Naturalist	Revenging	Therefore

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 10 and 11.

3. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Donkey ; horse ; pony ; wild ass ; dray-horse ; bull-dog ; quagga ; zebra.*

4. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Spirit ; power ; size ; stripe ; origin ; parent ; circle ; body ; patience ; malice ; child ; revenge ; ignorance ; dog.*

5. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Near ; depend ; treat ; compare ; open ; wander ; patient ; good ; content ; useful ; willing ; educate ; remember ; torment ; wild.*

6. Explain the following phrases : (1) It is hard to believe that the donkey is a relation of the horse. (2) The ass will put up with very cruel usage without resenting it. (3) The donkey evaded the first spring of the bull-dog.

I R O N.

Im'plements, tools.

Incal'culable, not to be (easily)
valued or estimated.

Romance', stories of the olden
times.

Intense', very great.

Con'stitutes, forms or makes.

Condit'ion, state.

Convert'ed, changed.

Enum'erate, recount or tell about.

1. Iron is what is called a *metal*; and, of all the metals, it is the most useful to man—far more useful than gold or silver, or copper, or tin. While being the most useful, iron is fortunately also the most common of all the metals, being found almost everywhere. A long time ago, people knew nothing of iron or of its uses, and they made all their tools and weapons out of stone or bone or wood; then they found out copper and tin, and they mixed these together and made for themselves lances, knives, hatchets, and needles; being thus much better off than they were before.
2. Copper and tin when mixed together make what is called *bronze*; but on account of its softness, bronze, though better than stone or bone, is still not worth very much for making any kind of tool which needs a sharp edge. In olden times only the rich people could afford to use it, and the poor

people had to content themselves with their old and clumsy stone implements.

3. It was therefore a great thing for the world when iron was first found out, and the discovery of its innumerable uses has made an incalculable improvement in the condition of the whole human race.

4. Though we have said that iron is found almost everywhere, the metal in its *pure* state is hardly known to occur naturally at all. A few lumps of it are occasionally met with; and out of these it is likely that the magic swords of the old heroes of romance, such as good King Arthur, were manufactured. The people, who at that time knew nothing about iron, thought that these swords were magical, because they were so much sharper than their own bronze ones.

5. Pure iron, therefore, is so rarely found, that we need say nothing about it here. The metal is, however, mixed up and joined with other substances; and is then known as *iron-ore*. In this state it is so common, that there is hardly any kind of rock or soil which does not contain more or less of it.

6. Sometimes the iron-ore is found in great masses in the ground, and then people dig it up to make iron out of it. For the purpose of getting at this iron-ore they dig deep holes in the ground, which are called *mines*; and the men who are employed in getting out the ore are called *miners*. 7. They spend most of their time under the earth, working by the aid of oil lamps, and

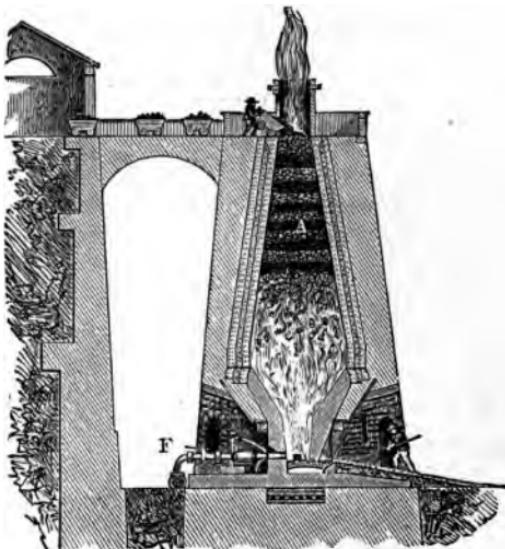
deprived of the pleasant light of the sun, and the sight of the grass and the green trees. We ought to be grateful to those who spend their lives in this way, in order that we may have iron for all our wants.

8. When you have seen iron-ore, you will no longer wonder that people were so long in finding out that it was worth anything, or that such a valuable substance as iron could be made from it. Most commonly, iron-ore is a reddish, brown, or black stone, which does not look at all like iron, and has none of its properties, except that it is very heavy. Sometimes it is found in the form of earth or sand, and sometimes, though like a stone in other respects, it has a brightly shining and metallic appearance.

9. All kinds of iron-ore, however different they may be to look at, are useless for any of the purposes for which we use iron itself. You could not make a knife or a hatchet out of the ore itself. Before you can use it, you must get the iron out of the ore; and this is done by a process called *smelting*.

10. In order to smelt iron, the ore is placed in a large furnace, along with a quantity of coal and limestone, and subjected to the most intense heat. The heat drives away from the ore all the substances which were mixed with the iron; and then the melted metal flows out as a red-hot stream, from a hole in the bottom of the furnace. The melted iron is run off into moulds, and allowed to cool down, and it then constitutes what is known as *pig-iron*. 11. Yet even in this stage

the iron is not perfectly pure, though it is greatly used in the preparation of articles by what is termed *casting*. In this process, an earthen mould is made of the shape of the article which it is desired to make, and then the iron is melted and



Section of Iron Blast-furnace, shewing the method of feeding in the ore, &c. through the openings at the top. At F is the pipe through which the hot air is forced into the furnace to increase the heat.

allowed to run in its fluid condition into the mould. When the metal has become thoroughly cool, the mould is broken, and the wished-for article is found inside. A great many iron tools and implements are made in this way of cast-iron, though *steel* is now often used instead.

12. Cast-iron is somewhat brittle, and can be easily broken; but it can be converted by processes which need not be described here into *wrought*-iron. This kind of iron has the property of being extremely tough, and at the same time it



Outward View of Blast-furnace, shewing (at D) the molten iron running off into the moulds to form pig-iron.

can easily be made into various shapes by being hammered, or by being passed under heavy rollers. 13. Hence wrought-iron can be easily formed into plates or sheets, which may be thick enough to form the armour for a man-of-war, or which may be as thin as the finest paper. It can also be drawn out into the most delicate and threadlike

wire. On account of its possessing these two properties, iron is both malleable and ductile.

14. Iron can also be changed into what is called *steel*. This is much harder than either cast or wrought iron, and takes a much higher polish. It can also be made of any degree of hardness by heating it carefully, and by cooling it rapidly.

15. Steel is used principally in the production of all tools which, like files, require to be very hard. All 'edge-tools,' such as knives, scissors, and razors, which require to have a very sharp cutting edge, are also made of steel.

16. It would be too long to enumerate here one-tenth part of the uses to which we put iron, in one or other of its three principal forms—namely, cast-iron, wrought-iron, and steel. What we should do without the innumerable small iron articles which we employ in our daily life, it is indeed hard to tell. 17. But one may safely say that we should feel very uncomfortable if we were to wake up some morning and find that all our iron pots and pans, our fenders, grates, and fire-irons, our knives, scissors, keys, locks, bolts, needles, steel-pens, watch-springs, hammers, nails, hatchets, and saws had suddenly disappeared during the night. Nor should we like to do without our railways, or the iron telegraph wires which enable us to send our news to all parts of the world in the space of a few minutes, or the splendid iron ships which convey ourselves and our goods to distant countries.

QUESTIONS.—1. Which is the most useful of all the metals? 2. Which is the most common? 3. Why is it the most useful?

4. Of what were tools and weapons made very long ago?
5. What is bronze?
6. What kind of people alone used bronze tools?
7. Of what were the old 'magic' swords made?
8. How is iron generally found?
9. Where?
10. What are the men called who dig it out?
11. How is the iron got out of the ore?
12. What is put in the furnace along with the ore?
13. Into what is the melted iron run?
14. What is it then called?
15. Describe the process of casting.
16. What is the difference between cast-iron and wrought-iron?
17. Wrought-iron can be made into sheets; how thick?
18. What is the other form of iron?
19. Tell me the names of some things made of iron.
20. Tell me the names of some things made of steel.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Useful	Incalculable	Deprived	Uncomfortable
Implements	Improvement	Metallic	Scissors
Innumerable	Occasionally	Enumerate	Disappeared

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in section 1.
3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Iron*; *metal*; *gold*; *silver*; *copper*; *tin*; *stone*; *bone*; *wood*; *edge*; *implements*; *heroes*; *holes*; *miners*.
4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Iron*; *bronze*; *implements*; *mines*; *furnace*; *knife*; *hatchet*; *steel*; *man-of-war*; *steel-pens*; *watch-springs*; *saws*.
5. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Metal*; *copper*; *bone*; *wood*; *expense*; *worth*; *occasion*; *mass*; *nature*; *use*; *earth*; *sand*; *substance*; *number*.
6. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Common*; *make*; *occur*; *mix*; *join*; *deep*; *pleasant*; *warm*; *drive*; *use*; *convert*; *employ*; *disappear*; *convey*; *distant*.
7. Explain the following phrases : (1) The poor people had to content themselves with their old stone implements. (2) The discovery of iron has made an incalculable improvement in the condition of the whole human race. (3) Iron ore has none of the properties of iron, except that it is heavy. (4) The iron runs in its fluid condition into the mould. (5) Cast-iron is brittle. (6) Splendid iron ships convey ourselves and our goods to distant countries.



Harvest-home.

AUTUMN.

Root, such as potatoes, turnips, and other roots.	Rus'tic, country [from Lat. <i>rūs</i> , the country. Hence also <i>rural</i>].
Wreath, something twisted or curled; a garland (for the head).	Gar'ners, granaries or stores. Perch, branch on which the sparrows light.
Wain, waggon.	Part'ing, departing.

1. Golden autumn comes again,
With its storms of wind and rain,
With its fields of yellow grain,

Gifts for man and bird and brute,
In its wealth of juicy fruit,
In its store of precious root.

Trees bend down with plum and pear,
Rosy apples scent the air,
Nuts are ripening ev'rywhere.

2. Through the lanes, where bindweed weaves
Graceful wreaths of curling leaves,
Home the reapers bear the sheaves,

Singing loud their harvest song,
In their hearty rustic tongue—
Singing gaily, old and young.

Singing loud beside the wain,
With its load of bursting grain
Dropping all along the lane.

3. Mice and ant and squirrel fill
Now their garners at their will ;
Only drones need hunger still.

Flocks of sparrows downward fly
From their hawthorn perch on high,
Pecking each one greedily.

4. Though the summer flowers are dead,
Still the poppy rears its head,
Glowing gaily all in red.

Still the daisy, large and white,
Shining like a star at night,
In the hedgerow twinkles bright.

5. Still the foxglove's crimson bell,
And the fern-leaves in the dell,
Autumn's parting beauty tell.

Purple sunsets, crimson leaves,
Fruit and flowers and golden sheaves,
Autumn gives us, ere she leaves.

Mrs Hawtrey.

QUESTIONS.—1. What storms come in autumn? 2. What is the colour of the fields? 3. What two kinds of gifts does she bring us? 4. Trees bend down with—? 5. The air is scented with—? 6. What kind of procession do we meet in the lanes? 7. What do the reapers do as they walk beside the cart? 8. What little animals lay up stores? 9. What little birds go about the fields in flocks? 10. What flower is to be seen everywhere in the fields? 11. What flower in the hedgerow? 12. What gifts does autumn give us before she goes away?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words:

Autumn	Precious	Squirrel	Beauty
Juicy	Wreaths	Hawthorn	Sheaves

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in section 3.
3. Add adjectives to the following nouns: *Autumn*; *grain*; *fruit*; *apples*; *leaves*; *reapers*.
4. Add verbs to the following nouns: *Trees*; *reapers*; *sparrows*; *drones*; *poppy*; *daisy*.
5. Make adjectives out of the following nouns: *Gold*; *storm*; *rose*; *nut*; *star*; *heart*; *brute*; *juice*; *grace*; *curl*; *hunger*; *flower*.
6. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs: *Give*; *juicy*; *sing*; *fly*; *depart*; *young*.
7. Explain the following phrases: (1) They sing in their hearty rustic tongue. (2) Only drones need hunger still. (3) The poppy glows gaily in red.





A FAR-DISTANT COUNTRY.

Transpar'ent, that can be seen through (the opposite of opaque).	Tem'perature, amount of heat in the air.
Remark'able, worthy of much notice.	Verd'ure, greenness.
Devoured', ate eagerly.	Emliv'ened, made lively.
For'midable, much to be feared.	Cred'ibly, so as to make one believe.

1. One winter evening, as Captain Compass was sitting by the fire, with his children all around

him, he began, after a little coaxing, to tell them the following story :

‘I happened once, just about this time of the year, to be in a country where it was very cold, and the poor inhabitants had much ado to keep themselves from starving. They were dressed partly in the skins of animals, and partly in garments made from the outer covering of a middle-sized quadruped, which they were in the habit of cutting off his back while he was alive.

2 ‘They lived in dwellings, parts of which were sunk under ground. The materials they used in building were either stones, or earth hardened by fire; and so terrible in that country were the storms of wind and rain, that many of them covered their roofs all over with stones. The walls of their houses had holes to let in the light; but to keep out the cold air and wet, they were covered with a sort of transparent stone, made of melted sand or flints. 3. As wood was rather scarce, I don’t know what they would have done for firing, if they had not discovered deep down in the bowels of the earth a very extraordinary kind of substance, which, when put among burning wood, caught fire and flamed like a torch.

4 ‘Well—but their diet too was remarkable. Some of them ate fish that had been hung up in smoke till they were quite dry and hard; and along with it they ate either the roots of plants, or a sort of coarse cake made of powdered seeds. 5. These were the poorer class: the richer had a whiter kind of cake, which they were fond

of daubing over with a kind of grease, which they got from a certain large animal. This grease they used, too, in almost all their dishes ; and when fresh, it really was not at all bad. They likewise devoured the flesh of many birds and beasts when they could get it ; and ate the leaves and other parts of different kinds of vegetables growing in the country, some quite raw, others variously prepared by the aid of fire.

6. ‘Another great article of food was the curd of milk, pressed into a hard mass and salted. This had so rank a smell, that persons of weak stomachs often could not bear to come near it. For drink, they made great use of water in which certain dry dusty leaves had been steeped. These leaves, I was told, came from countries a great distance off.

7. They had likewise a way of preparing a liquor of the seeds of a grass-like plant steeped in water, adding to it a bitter herb, and which was then set to “work” or ferment. I was prevailed upon to taste it, and thought it at first very nasty, but in time I got to like it pretty well.

8. ‘When I had lived in this cold climate about half a year, I found the same people enjoying a delicious temperature, and the country become full of beauty and verdure. The trees and shrubs were covered with a great variety of fruits, which, with other vegetable products, made up a large part of the food of the inhabitants. 9. I particularly relished certain berries growing in bunches, some white and some red, of a very pleasant sourish taste, and so transparent, that one might see the seeds at the

very centre of them. Here, too, were whole fields full of extremely sweet-smelling flowers, which they told me were followed by pods bearing seeds, that were excellent food both for man and beast. A great variety of birds enlivened the groves and woods; among which was a very amusing one, that, with little teaching, spoke as plainly as a parrot.

10. ‘The dress of the people in warm weather was very various. Many were clad only in a thin cloth made of the long fibres of the stalk of a plant cultivated for the purpose: this they prepared by soaking in water, and then beating with large mallets. 11. Others wore cloth woven from a curious sort of vegetable wool, which grew in pods upon bushes. But the most singular material was a fine glossy stuff, used chiefly by the richer classes, which, as I was credibly informed, is manufactured out of the fine webs of a kind of grub-worm.

12. ‘This people are very odd in their dress, especially the women: their clothing consists of a great number of articles which I really could not describe, and which strangely disguise the natural form of the body. In some instances they seem very cleanly; but in others, the Hottentots are better than they are. 13. Their mode of dressing the hair is remarkable: it is all matted and stiffened with the fat of swine and other animals, mixed up with substances of various kinds and colours. Like many Indian nations, they use *feathers* in the head-dress. 14. One thing surprised

me much, which was, that they bring up in their houses an animal of the tiger kind, with formidable teeth and claws, which is played with and caressed by the tiniest and most timid of their children.'

'I am sure I would not play with it,' said Jack.

'Why, you might chance to get an ugly scratch if you did,' said the Captain.

15. 'The language of this nation seems very harsh, and a foreigner finds it very difficult to understand it, yet they talk to one another with great ease and quickness. One of the oddest customs is their way of saluting each other. Let the weather be what it will, they uncover their heads, and remain uncovered for some time, if they mean to be extremely respectful.'

16. 'Why, that's like pulling off our hats,' said Jack.

'Ah, ha ! papa,' cried Betsy, 'I have found you out. You have been telling us of our own country, and what is done at home, all this while.'

'But,' said Jack, 'we don't eat grease and powdered seeds, nor wear skins and webs, nor play with tigers.'

'No ?' said the Captain ; 'pray what is the hard substance found in the earth but coal ; and is not butter, grease ; and corn, seeds ; and leather, skins ; and silk the web of a kind of caterpillar ; and may we not as well call a cat an animal of the tiger kind, as a tiger an animal of the cat kind ?'

QUESTIONS (These questions should be put before paragraph 16 is read).—1. Who tells the story ? 2. To whom ? 3. What time of the year was it ? 4. What is the middle-sized quadruped from which they take the outer covering ? 5. What is the earth hardened by fire ? 6. What is the transparent stone ? 7. Of what is it made ? 8. What is the substance found deep down in the earth ? 9. What are the roots of plants they ate ? 10. What the coarse cake ? 11. What was the grease ? 12. Tell me some of the vegetables eaten raw. 13. Some prepared by the help of fire. 14. What is the curd of milk pressed hard called ? 15. What is the water in which the dry leaves have been steeped ? 16. What is the liquor made with seeds and a bitter herb ? 17. What are the berries growing in bunches ? 18. What the pods bearing seeds ? 19. What is the cloth made of long fibres ? 20. What is the cloth made of vegetable wool ? 21. What is that made of the webs of a grub-worm ? 22. What is the animal of the tiger kind seen in their houses ?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Inhabitants	Leaves	Delicious	Stomachs
Extraordinary	Vegetables	Language	Extremely
Daubing	Liquor	Foreigner	Material

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in paragraph 1.
3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Houses ; diet ; cake ; liquor ; berries ; hair ; roof ; birds ; beasts ; food ; water.*
4. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Quadruped ; fish ; birds ; grub-worm ; tiger ; beasts ; inhabitants ; Hollentots.*
5. Explain the following sentences : (1) Their diet was remarkable. (2) The vegetables were prepared by the aid of fire. (3) I particularly relished some berries. (4) A variety of birds enlivened the woods.





THE RAILWAY TRAIN.

Mould, the earth laid open.

Mar'gin, border or edge.

Brake, thicket full of low brush-
wood.

Gull'ies, narrow clefts worn by
water.

Aq'ueduct, a bridge that carries a
canal.

Survey', look across (wrongly
accented in the poem).

Man'sion, large house.

Expan'sion, extent.

Gorge, narrow mountain glen.

Goal, the place the train is going
to—or *terminus*.

1. Through the mould and through the clay,
Through the corn and through the hay,
By the margin of the lake,
O'er the river, through the brake,

On we hie with screech and roar !
 Splashing ! flashing ! crashing ! dashing !
 Over ridges, gullies, bridges !
 By the bubbling rill, and mill—
 Highways, byways,
 Hollow hill—
 Jumping—bumping—roaring—rocking
 Like forty thousand giants snorting !

2. O'er the aqueduct and bog,
 On we fly, with ceaseless jog,
 Every instant something new ;
 Every moment lost to view.
 Now a tavern—now a steeple—
 Now a crowd of gaping people—
 Now a hollow—now a ridge—
 Now a cross-way—now a bridge.
3. Grumble—stumble—rumble—tumble—
 Fretting—getting in a stew !
 Church and steeple, gaping people,
 Quick as thought are lost to view !
 Everything that eye can survey
 Turns hurly-burly, topsy-turvy !
4. Glimpse of lonely hut and mansion,
 Glimpse of ocean's wide expansion,
 Glimpse of foundry and of forge,
 Glimpse of plain and mountain gorge,
 Dash along ! slash along ! flash along !
 On ! on with a bump and a thump,
 And a roll !
Hies the railway train, to its destined goal.

DICTION.—Learn to write out verse 4.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Mould	Gullies	Aqueduct	Survey
Margin	Bubbling	Ceaseless	Ocean
Screech	Byways	People	Foundry

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in verses 3 and 4.

3. Change the following nouns into adjectives : *Mould* ; *clay* ; *hill* ; *giant* ; *moment* ; *crowd* ; *ocean* ; *mountain*.

4. Make nouns of the following adjectives and verbs : *Hollow* ; *fly* ; *new* ; *lose* ; *quick* ; *think* ; *lonely* ; *wide* ; *broad* ; *long* ; *deep*.

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) On we hie with screech and roar. (2) Now a tavern is lost to view. (3) The railway train hies to its destined goal.

STORY OF A SOLDIER'S LIFE.

A TALE OF THE LAST CENTURY.*

PART I.

Disposition, wish.

Scho'l'ar, a person who has book-knowledge.

Resolved', determined.

Mall'et, a wooden hammer.

Wrought, worked.

Suff'ered, allowed.

Poach'er, a man who steals game, such as hares or partridges.

Indict'ed, charged, accused.

Vag'abond, a wanderer, without any home or business.

Indifferent, middling.

Hold, the lowest part of the ship, without light.

Expired', ended.

Cam'paign, the time during which an army is in the field.

- I was born in Shropshire;¹ my father was a labourer, and died when I was five years old; so I was put upon the parish. As he had been a wandering sort of man, the parishioners were not able to tell to what parish I belonged, or where I was born; so they sent me to another parish, and

* The incidents in the above relate to a state of things now happily unknown.

that parish sent me to a third. 2. I thought in my heart, they kept sending me about so long, that they would not let me belong to any parish at all; but at last, however, they fixed me. I had some disposition to be a scholar, and was resolved at least to know my letters; but the master of the workhouse put me to business as soon as I was able to handle a mallet; and here I lived an easy kind of life for five years. 3. I wrought ten hours in the day, and had my meat and drink provided for my labour. It is true, I was not suffered to stir out of the house, for fear, as they said, I should run away; but what of that? I had the liberty of the whole house, and the yard before the door; and that was enough for me. I was then bound out to a farmer, where I was up both early and late: but I ate and drank well, and liked my business well enough, till he died, when I was obliged to provide for myself; so I was resolved to go and seek my fortune.

4. In this manner I went from town to town, worked when I could get employment, and starved when I could get none; when, happening one day to go through a field belonging to a justice of the peace,² I spied a hare crossing the path just before me, and I was tempted to fling my stick at it. Well, what came of this? I killed the hare, and was bringing it away, when the justice himself met me; he called me a poacher and a villain, and collaring me, desired I would give an account of myself. 5. I fell upon my knees, begged *his worship's* pardon, and began to give a full

account of all that I knew about myself and my family: but the justice said this was no proper account; so I was indicted at sessions,³ found guilty of being poor, and sent up to London to Newgate,⁴ in order to be transported⁵ as a vagabond.

6. People may say this and that of being in jail; but, for my part, I found Newgate as agreeable a place as ever I was in, in all my life. I had plenty to eat and drink, and did no work at all. This kind of life was too good to last for ever: so I was taken out of prison after five months, put on board a ship, and sent off with two hundred more to the plantations.⁶ 7. We had but an indifferent passage; for, being all confined in the hold, more than a hundred of our people died for want of fresh air, and those that remained were sickly enough. When we came ashore, we were sold to the planters, and I was bound for seven years more. As I was no scholar, for I did not know my letters, I was obliged to work among the negroes; and I served out my time as in duty bound to do.

8. When my time was expired, I worked my passage home, and glad I was to see old England again, because I loved my country. I was afraid, however, that I should be indicted for a vagabond once more; so I did not much care to go down into the country, but kept about the town, and did little jobs when I could get them.

9. I was very happy in this manner for some time; till one evening, coming home from work, I was suddenly seized by two men, who compelled

me to go along with them. They belonged to a press-gang.⁷ I was carried before the justice, and, as I could give no satisfactory account of myself, I had my choice left, whether to go on board a man-of-war or list for a soldier. I chose the latter, and served two campaigns in Flanders,⁸ was at the battle of Fontenoy,⁹ and received a wound through the breast; but the doctor of our regiment soon made me well again.

EXPLANATIONS.—1. ‘Shropshire’—One of the western counties of England, bordering on Wales, and just midway between the north and south. Another name for the county is Salop. 2. ‘Justice of the Peace (or J.P.)’—A country magistrate. 3. ‘Sessions’—The regular time at which magistrates meet to try cases. 4. ‘Newgate’—The chief jail in London. 5. ‘Transported’—Sent out of the country and carried over the seas to some British settlement. 6. ‘Plantations’—Of tobacco, rice, and sugar, in the southern states of North America, which belonged then to the British. 7. ‘Press-gang’—A body of sailors sent out from a man-of-war to seize any strong-looking fellow they met with and force him to become a sailor. 8. ‘Flanders’—The old name for Belgium, and part of Holland and France. 9. ‘Fontenoy’—In Flanders; the French won the battle.

QUESTIONS.—1. Where was the old soldier born? 2. What was his father? 3. How old was he when his father died? 4. What became of him then? 5. Why could not the parishioners decide to what parish the child belonged? 6. What did he wish to be? 7. How soon did the master of the workhouse set the child to work? 8. How many years did he live in the workhouse? 9. What was his age when he went to the farmer? 10. Why did he leave the farmer? 11. Where did he go to look for employment? 12. Did he always get it? 13. What happened to him when he was walking in the magistrate’s field? 14. Who met him with the hare in his hand? 15. What did the justice do? 16. Was the lad’s story believed? 17. What was he charged with at the sessions? 18. What place was he sent to, to wait till he was transported? 19. How long was he in

Newgate? 20. Where was he sent to then? 21. In what part of the ship were the prisoners confined? 22. How many died on the passage to America? 23. What ocean did they cross? 24. Who bought the prisoners on their arrival? 25. Why was our friend obliged to work with the negroes? 26. How long was he in America? 27. What did he do when he came back to England? 28. What happened to him one evening? 29. Which did he choose to be, a sailor or a soldier? 30. Where did he serve two campaigns? 31. At what battle was he present? 32. Was he wounded, and where?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Labourer	Business	Indicted	Remained
Parishioner	Wrought	Transported	Negroes
Scholar	Poacher	Agreeable	Campaign
Resolved	Villain	Indifferent	Regiment

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 1 and 2.

3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Labourer ; parish ; scholar ; master ; mallet ; meat ; drink ; house ; door ; farmer ; fortune ; town ; field ; hare ; poacher ; vagabond.*

4. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Life ; work ; month ; air ; duty ; England ; home ; justice ; man ; soldier ; peace ; heart ; year.*

5. Make nouns out of the following verbs : *Born ; died ; tell ; resolved ; know ; handle ; wrought ; provided ; suffered ; run ; liked ; starved ; tempted ; collaring ; sold.*

6. Explain the following phrases : (1) Put upon the parish. (2) At last, however, they fixed me. (3) I had some disposition to be a scholar. (4) I was resolved to go and seek my fortune. (5) What came of this? (6) I would give an account of myself. (7) We had but an indifferent passage. (8) I served out my time as in duty bound to do. (9) They compelled me to go along with them. (10) List for a soldier.





THE PEACOCK.

Brill'iant, very splendid.
Gor'geous, magnificent.
Resplend'ent, shining brilliantly.
Display', shew off.
Append'age, addition.

Dis'sonant, harsh-sounding.
Extrav'agant, too wasteful and
careless of money.
Banq'ueats, feasts.

1. The peacock is one of the most beautiful of birds, its brilliant plumage having rendered it an object of admiration and wonder since the earliest times. The feathers which clothe the body of the male bird are magnificently coloured, and the head carries a tuft of twenty-four upright feathers with golden-green tips; but its great beauty is its immense 'train.' 2. The feathers of the real tail are only seven or eight inches in length, but those of the train are very long, tinted with the most gorgeous shades, all the central ones having a resplendent eye-like spot. The peacock can raise *its tail* above its back and spread out the feathers *just like a turkey*, so as to display all the beauties

of this wonderful appendage. 3. It is a vain bird, very proud of its appearance, and always delighted to find spectators before whom it can strut about and expand its train. The female bird, or 'peahen,' on the other hand, is much more soberly dressed than her mate, and she has hardly any train at all. 4. The peacock thrives very well in Britain, and in Europe generally, but its real home is India. Here flocks of peacocks live in the woods, running about during the day upon the ground in search of the seeds and berries upon which they feed, and mounting into the highest trees at night-fall, for the purpose of roosting, secure from the attacks of beasts of prey. 5. They can run with considerable speed, but their flight is comparatively heavy and slow. The eggs, to the number of twenty or thirty, are laid in a shallow hole in the ground, and the female has to take great care to hide them from her unnatural husband, who has a bad habit of breaking them if he gets the chance.

6. In some parts of India, bands of peacocks, thirty or forty in number, are very common—covering the trees with brilliant green and gold and blue and velvety-black plumage, but also making the day hideous with their dissonant cries. They cannot rise easily on the wing, and, if hard pressed, they can only run. 7. Peacock-shooting in India is a very dangerous sport, as the peacock frequents places where the tiger is also found, and thus the hunter runs a bad chance of becoming himself the game. But old hunters,

who wish to attack the tiger, find peacocks very useful in letting them know of his presence, as they have a certain note of alarm—a number of quick grating cries to each other, when that beast of prey is near.

8. Peacocks were first brought into Europe from India by the celebrated conqueror Alexander the Great, who was so much delighted with their beauty that he made it a serious offence to kill them. The Romans, however, found out that they were good to eat; and, being an extravagant people, used to serve them up at their grand banquets, with the tail spread in wide and full splendour. At the present day it is seldom that the peacock is eaten in this part of the world, but is kept as an ornament in parks or gardens. 9. Its beauty is indeed almost its only recommendation as a domestic bird, for it often does a good deal of damage to cultivated plants, and its cry is of the most unpleasant and inharmonious kind. It sounds something like the united mewing of about a thousand cats; and the bird is said to utter this harsh scream upon the approach of rain, so that it serves to some extent as a guide to the weather.

SUMMARY.

1. The name of pea-fowl is given to a kind of ‘scratching bird,’ nearly related to the common fowl and the turkey. The male bird is called the peacock, and the female is called the pea-hen.
2. The habits of the peacock are like those of the scratching birds generally; that is to say, it lives principally upon the ground, and it feeds upon berries, buds of plants, *and seeds*, which it scratches out of the earth with its feet. *It is a quick runner, but an awkward flier.*

QUESTIONS.—1. How many feathers are in the head-tuft ?
 2. Tell me what you know about its tail and its train. 3. Where is its real home ? 4. Where does it roost ? 5. Why ? 6. How many eggs does it lay ? 7. How many go in one flock in India ? 8. What is the danger in India to a sportsman who is shooting peacocks ? 9. In what way is the bird useful to tiger-hunters ? 10. Who brought the peacock first into Europe ? 11. Tell me something to shew that the bird was valued very highly. 12. In what way did the Romans esteem the bird ? 13. What is the peacock's chief recommendation ? 14. What is its least ? 15. How is it a guide to the weather ?

DICTATION.—Learn to write out :

The brilliant plumage of the peacock has made it an object of admiration since the earliest times.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Magnificently	Display	Hideous	Serious
Gorgeous	Prey	Dissonant	Extravagant
Resplendent	Comparatively	Dangerous	Banquets
Appendage	Unnatural	Conqueror	Cultivated

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 5 and 6.

3. Turn the following nouns into adjectives : *Beauty ; wonder ; magnificence ; shade ; centre ; feather ; night ; habit ; care ; ornament ; wing ; extent ; alarm ; harmony ; delight ; offence ; good.*

4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Brilliant ; admire ; great ; long ; append ; proud ; appear ; expand ; sober ; thrive ; secure ; fly ; slow ; shoot ; sport ; rise ; hunt ; present ; conquer ; good ; eat ; adorn ; cultivate.*

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) Its brilliant plumage renders it an object of admiration. (2) The peacock displays all the beauties of this wonderful appendage. (3) The hunter runs a bad chance of becoming himself the game. (4) Peacocks used to be served at the grand banquets of the Romans. (5) The peacock serves to some extent as a guide to the weather.

STORM SONG.

Scudd'ing, driving fast. Shrouds, ship's ropes. Hatch' es, the boards that cover the hold.	Spars, ship's cross-yards and beams. Surges, great waves. Chart, map of sea, with track marked on it.
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1. The clouds are scudding
across the moon ;
A misty light is on the
sea ;
The wind in the shrouds
has a wintry tune,
And the foam is flying
free.
2. Brothers, a night of
terror and gloom
Speaks in the cloud
and gathering roar:



Thank God, He has given us broad sea-room,
A thousand miles from shore.

3. Down with the hatches on those who sleep !
The wild and whistling deck have we ;
Good watch, my brothers, to-night we'll
keep,
While the tempest is on the sea !
4. Though the rigging shriek in his terrible
grip,
And the naked spars be snapped away,
Lashed to the helm, we'll drive our ship
In the teeth of the whelming spray !
5. Hark ! how the surges o'erleap the deck !
Hark ! how the pitiless tempest raves !
Ah, daylight will look upon many a wreck
Drifting over the desert waves.
6. Yet, courage, brothers ! we trust the wave,
With God above us, our guiding chart :
So, whether to harbour or ocean-grave,
Be it still with a cheery heart !

Bayard Taylor.

DICTION.—Learn to write out the last verse.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Scudding	Whistling	Shriek	Pitiless
Terror	Tempest	Overleap	Harbour

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in verses 5 and 6.

3. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Cloud* ; *mist* ; *wind* ; *winter* ; *night* ; *terror* ; *tempest* ; *pity* ; *wave* ; *courage* ; *guide* ; *ocean* ; *heart*.

4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs :
Fly; free; speak; broad; wild; rave; drive; cheery.

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) The foam is flying free. (2) He has given us broad sea-room. (3) We'll drive our ship in the teeth of the spray. (4) Be it still with a cheery heart !

STORY OF A SOLDIER'S LIFE.

PART II.

Discharged', set free.	Engage'ment, fight.
Pitched, regularly arranged.	Enti'tled, have a right to.
Promo'tion, rise in rank.	Main'tenance, food and lodging.
Shammed, pretended.	Intrepid'ity, courage.
Crew, a ship's company.	Habit'ual, usual, everyday.
Sea'soned, hardened.	Acquaint'ance, knowledge of.
Sentry, the soldier on guard.	Philos'ophy, the learning we get from books and thoughtful men.
Post'ed, placed.	Despise', to think little of.
Quay (<i>key</i>), a landing-stage.	
Consent'ed, agreed.	

1. When the peace came on,¹ I was discharged ; and, as I could not work, because my wound was sometimes troublesome, I listed for a soldier in the East India Company's service. I have fought the French in three pitched battles ; and I verily believe that, if I could read or write, our captain would have made me a corporal.³ 2. But it was not my good-fortune to have any promotion ; for I soon fell sick, and so got leave to return home again with forty pounds in my pocket. This was at the beginning of the present war, and I hoped to be set on shore, and to have the pleasure of spending *my money* ; but the government wanted men, and

so I was pressed for a sailor before ever I could set foot on shore.

3. The boatswain⁴ found me, as he said, an obstinate fellow; he vowed he knew I understood my business well, but that I shammed, to be idle; but indeed I knew nothing of sea-business; and he beat me, without considering what he was about. I had still, however, my forty pounds (and that was some comfort to me under every beating), and the money I might have had to this day, but that our ship was taken by the French; and so I lost all.

4. Our crew was carried into Brest,⁵ and many of them died, because they were not used to live in a jail; but, for my part, it was nothing to me, for I was seasoned. One night, as I was asleep on my bed of boards, with a warm blanket about me, I was awakened by the boatswain, who had a dark-lantern in his hand.

5. ‘Jack,’ said he to me, ‘will you make a struggle to get free with us?’

‘I don’t care,’ says I, striving to keep myself awake, ‘if I lend a hand.’

‘Then follow me,’ said he, ‘and I hope we shall do business.’

So up I got, and tied my blanket, which was all the clothes I had, about my middle, and went with him.

6. Though we were not armed, we went down to the door where both sentries were posted, and rushing upon them, seized their muskets and knocked them down. From thence nine of us ran

together to the quay, and seizing the first boat, got out of the harbour and put to sea. We had not been there three days before we were taken up by the *Dorset* privateer,⁶ who was glad of so many good hands, and we consented to run our chance. 7. However, we had not as much luck as we expected. In three days we fell in with the *Pompadour* privateer, of forty guns, while we had but twenty-three. So to it we went, yard-arm to yard-arm.⁷ The fight lasted for three hours, and I verily believe we should have taken the Frenchman, had we but had some more men left behind ; but unfortunately we lost all our men just as we were going to get the victory.

8. I was once more in the power of the French, and I believe it would have gone hard with me had I been brought back to Brest ; but, by good-fortune, we were retaken by the *Viper*. I had almost forgot to tell you that in this engagement I was wounded in two places ; I lost four fingers of the left hand, and my leg was shot off. If I had had the good-fortune to have lost my leg and the use of my hand on board a king's ship, and not on board a privateer, I should have been entitled to clothing and maintenance during the rest of my life ; but that was not my chance. 9. One man is born with a silver spoon in his mouth, and another with a wooden ladle. However, blessed be God, I enjoy good health, and will for ever love liberty and old England. Liberty and old England for ever, hurra !

Thus saying, he limped off, leaving me in admir-

ation at his intrepidity and content; nor could I help seeing that an habitual acquaintance with misery serves better than philosophy to teach us to despise it.

Goldsmith.

EXPLANATIONS.—1. ‘The peace’—The peace of Aix-la-Chapelle in 1748. 2. ‘The East India Company’—A company of merchants who began to trade with the East Indies in 1599; the government of India was in the hands of the East India Company till 1858, when it was passed over to the crown. 3. ‘Corporal’—The first rank above a private soldier. 4. ‘Boatswain’—An officer who takes charge of a ship’s boats, sails, cables, &c., and who sometimes overlooks the sailors at work. 5. ‘Brest’—A harbour in Brittany, north-west of France. 6. ‘Privateer’—A ship commanded by a private captain, not connected with the king’s service, but with a commission to do all the damage it could to the enemies of its country. 7. ‘Yard-arm to yard-arm’—Close alongside of each other.

QUESTIONS.—1. Why was the soldier discharged? 2. Why could he not work? 3. What did he do when he left the king’s army? 4. How many battles was he in with the French? 5. How much money had he made during his campaigns? 6. Why was he again pressed for a sailor? 7. Who said our friend was an idle fellow? 8. Was he ever punished? 9. How did he lose his forty pounds? 10. Where were he and the crew of his ship taken? 11. What sort of bed had he in the French jail? 12. What is a dark-lantern? 13. What did the boatswain invite Jack to do? 14. Was he well clothed in the French prison? 15. How did the Englishmen get past the sentries? 16. How many Englishmen got down to the quay? 17. What did they find there? 18. How many days were they in the boat on the open sea? 19. Who rescued them? 20. What happened three days later? 21. How many guns had the *Pompadour* and the *Dorset*? 22. Why did the *Dorset* lose the victory? 23. What was the name of the English ship that took the *Pompadour*? 24. What wounds did Jack get in the fight between the *Viper* and the *Pompadour*? 25. If he had had the good-fortune to be wounded severely in a king’s ship,

what difference would it have made to his future life? 26. What was Jack's way of saying that one man is born lucky and another unlucky? 27. What helps us to think little about trouble?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Discharged	Boatswain	Clothes	Privateer
Troublesome	Obstinate	Sentries	Maintenance
Corporal	Business	Quay	Intrepidity
Beginning	Seasoned	Seizing	Acquaintance

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 1 and 2.

3. Add adjectives to the following nouns : *Wound*; *service*; *captain*; *pocket*; *war*; *money*; *shore*; *business*; *crew*; *night*; *blanket*; *Frenchman*; *boat*; *gun*; *fight*.

4. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Frenchman*; *fortune*; *king*; *silver*; *wood*; *health*; *admiration*; *content*; *misery*; *night*; *comfort*.

5. Make nouns out of the following verbs : *Discharged*; *fought*; *believe*; *read*; *write*; *fall*; *hoped*; *wanted*; *understood*; *beat*; *lost*; *used*; *posted*; *rushing*; *met*; *wounded*.

6. Explain the following phrases : (1) I listed for a soldier. (2) I have fought in three pitched battles. (3) I was pressed for a sailor. (4) We consented to run our chance. (5) To it we went, yard-arm to yard-arm. (6) It would have gone hard with me. (7) One man is born with a silver spoon in his mouth, and another with a wooden ladle.





Herring Fishing.

THE SONG OF THE SCOTCH FISHERMEN.

Glides, moves smoothly.
With lightsome cheer, with cheerful heart.
Speed, succeed.
Bairn'ies, little children.
Lar'go Bay, a bay on the Firth of Forth.

Bonn'y, handsome.
Sway, movement backwards and forwards.
Treas'ures, what we value.
Scal'y store, the fish that have been caught.
Prow, the bow.

1. O swiftly glides the bonny boat
Just parted from the shore,
And to the fisher's chorus-note
Soft moves the dipping oar.

2. His toils are borne with lightsome cheer;
And ever may they speed,

Who feeble age and helpmates dear
And tender bairnies feed.

3. We cast our lines in Largo Bay,
Our nets are floating wide ;
Our bonny boat, with yielding sway,
Rocks lightly on the tide.
4. And happy prove our daily lot
Upon the summer sea,
And blest on land our kindly cot,
Where all our treasures be !
5. The mermaid on her rock may sing,
The witch may weave her charm—
Nor water-sprite nor ghostly thing
The bonny boat can harm.
6. It safely bears its scaly store
Through many a stormy gale,
While joyful shouts rise from the shore,
Its homeward prow to hail.

J. Baillie.

DICTION.—Learn to write out the sixth verse.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Chorus	Yielding	Treasures	Water-sprite
Lightsome	Daily	Mermaid	Homeward

2. Point out all the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in verses 1 and 2.
3. Change the following nouns into adjectives : *Toil*; *cheer*; *age*; *day*; *summer*; *charm*; *scale*; *storm*; *joy*.
4. Make nouns out of the following adjectives and verbs : *Swift*; *depart*; *soft*; *move*; *cheerful*; *feeble*; *bless*; *weave*.

5. Explain the following phrases : (1) His toils are borne with lightsome cheer. (2) It safely bears its scaly store. (3) Joyful shouts rise to hail its homeward prow.



THE LION AND THE SPANIEL.

Cease'lessly, without ever stop-ping.
Strait'ened, too narrow.
Gam'boled, played and frolicked.
Advanced', came up.
Pa'tron, friend who takes care of.
Restored', given back.
Declined' the risk, refused to take
the risk.

Des'olate, lonely and sad.
Loath'ing, disgust and dislike.
Exhaust'ed, worn out.
Mel'ancholy, sadness.
Lan'guished, drooped and lost his
strength.
Declined', his life faded away.
Reclined', leaning on.

1. Everybody was talking about the great lion and the little dog at the Tower,* and the friendship between them; so we made up our minds to go too.

* In the beginning of this century a small menagerie of wild beasts *was kept in the Tower of London,*

The great cage in front was occupied by a beast, who was called the king's lion; and, while he ceaselessly walked up and down from end to end of his straitened dominions, he was attended by a small and very beautiful black spaniel, who frisked and jumped and gamboled about him. At one time it would pretend to snarl and bite at the lion; at another, the noble animal, with an air of fondness, would hold down his head, while the tiny creature licked his terrible chaps. 1 The keeper told us the story about them.

It was the custom for all who were unable or unwilling to pay their sixpence, to bring a dog or a cat as an offering to the beast in place of money to the keeper. Among others, a cruel lad had caught up this pretty black spaniel in the streets, and threw it into the cage of the great lion. 2. The little animal trembled and shivered with fear, and threw itself on its back. It then put out its tongue, and held up its paws, as if praying for mercy.

In the meantime, the lordly brute, instead of devouring it as usual, looked at it with an eye of cool curiosity. He turned it over with one paw, and then with the other; sniffed at it, and seemed desirous of courting a further acquaintance.

4 The keeper, on seeing this, brought a large mess of his own family dinner; but the lion kept aloof, and refused to eat, but kept his eye on the dog, and, as it were, invited him to eat. At length *the little animal's fears being somewhat abated, and his appetite quickened by the smell of the viands,*

he approached slowly, and tremblingly ventured to eat. The lion then advanced gently and began to join him, and they finished their meal very lovingly together.

5. From this day the closest friendship began between them—a friendship of all possible affection and tenderness on the part of the lion, and of the utmost confidence and boldness on the part of the dog, insomuch that he would lie down to sleep within the paws and under the jaws of his terrible patron.

6. A gentleman who had lost the spaniel, and had advertised a reward of two guineas to the finder, at length heard of the adventure, and went to claim his dog. ‘You see, sir,’ said the keeper, ‘it would be a great pity to part such loving friends; however, if you insist upon your property being restored, you must be so good as to take him yourself: I would not try it myself for five hundred guineas.’ The gentleman of course declined the risk of a fight with the lion.

7. In about twelve months the little spaniel sickened and died, and left its loving protector the most desolate of creatures. For a time the lion appeared to believe that his pet was only asleep. He would keep smelling the body; then would stir it with his nose, and turn it over with his paws. 8. But finding that all his efforts to awake his pet were vain, he would walk along his cage from end to end at a swift and uneasy pace, then stop; then look down with a fixed and drooping gaze; then raise his head, and open his terrible throat, and

utter a prolonged roar, as of distant thunder, for minutes together.

9. They tried to take away the carcass from him, but they could not ; he watched it constantly, and would allow no one to touch it. The keeper then tried to tempt him with different kinds of food, but he turned from all that was offered with loathing. They then put several living dogs into his cage, and these he instantly tore piecemeal, but left their bodies, untasted, on the floor.

10. In his terrible passion he would dart his claws into the boards and wrench away large splinters ; and again grapple and shake the bars of his cage till they were nearly torn down. Again, quite exhausted, he would stretch himself by the remains of his friend, gather them in with his paws, and hug them. All this while he uttered under-roars of terrible melancholy for the loss of his little play-fellow—the only friend, the only companion that he had upon earth.

11. For five days he thus languished, and gradually declined, always refusing to take any food or to accept any comfort. At last, one morning, he was found dead with his head lovingly reclined on the body of his little friend. They were both buried together, and over their grave the keeper and the keeper's family shed many sad tears.

QUESTIONS.—1. Where were the lion and the spaniel to be seen ? 2. Where is the Tower ? 3. What was it usual to do when those who wished to see the lion could not pay sixpence ? 4. When the spaniel was thrown into the cage, how did it ~~What~~ do ? 5. What did the lion do to the dog ? 6. When the

keeper brought his dinner, what did he do? 7. Who finished the dinner? 8. How did the spaniel shew his confidence in the lion? 9. What did the keeper say to the gentleman who came to claim his dog? 10. How long after did the spaniel die? 11. How did the lion shew he did not believe it was dead? 12. When he could not awake his friend, what did he do? 13. Did any one take away the carcass of the dog? 14. Why not? 15. What did the lion do to the dogs put into his cage? 16. How did he behave in his passion? 17. And after that? 18. How long did he languish? 19. How was he lying when he was found dead? 20. What had he died of? 21. Who wept over the graves of the spaniel and the lion?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words:

Occupied	Gamboled	Approached
Straightened	Spaniel	Guineas
Dominions	Shivered	Piecemeal

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in paragraph 6.
3. Add adjectives to the following nouns: *Lion*; *spaniel*; *keeper*; *dinner*; *protector*; *melancholy*.
4. Add verbs to the following nouns: *Lion*; *spaniel*; *keeper*; *gentleman*; *friend*; *family*.
5. Explain the following sentences: (1) The great cage was occupied by a lion. (2) The lordly brute eyed it coolly. (3) The lion kept aloof. (4) The gentleman declined the risk.



GOOD FOR EVIL.

In pursuit' of, following or hunting. | Couch, a place to lie down on.
 Accept', take. | A consid'erable dist'ance, a good
 Ven'ison, flesh of game. | way.
 Illus'trate, to explain or shew by example.



cold water; but the farmer only answered roughly: 'Get you gone, you Indian dog!'

The Indian fixed his eyes for a while on the farmer, and then slowly turned away.

3. Some time after this, the same person, while in pursuit of game, lost his way in the pathless woods. He wandered about a long time, till at last, seeing an Indian hut, he went up to it and asked his way to the place he wished to reach.

The Indian said: 'It is a great way off, and the sun will soon go down; you cannot get there

1. A farmer who had settled in America, was one evening standing at his door, when an Indian, faint and weary, came and asked him for something to eat. He said roughly: 'I have nothing for you.'

2. The Indian then asked for a glass of beer, and the farmer again refused.

Once more he begged for a little

to-night, and if you stay in the wood the wolves will devour you; but if you care to lodge with me you may.'

4. The farmer was very glad to accept the offer of the kind Indian, who cooked a little venison for him; gave him some rum and water to drink; and then spread a couch of deer-skins for him to sleep on.

Early in the morning the Indian called the farmer, and told him that the sun was up, and that the place he wished to reach was a great way off, but that he would shew him the way.

5. The Indian shouldered his gun and went on before, while the farmer followed in his footsteps.

When they had travelled thus a considerable distance, the Indian told him that the place was now only two miles off.

He then suddenly stopped, and turning to the farmer, said: 'Do you know me?'

The farmer seemed much ashamed of himself, and muttered: 'I have seen you.'

6. The Indian answered: 'Yes, you have seen me at your own door; and now on parting I will make bold to give you a piece of advice: When a poor Indian, who is hungry and thirsty and faint, again asks you for a little meat or drink, do not say to him: "Get you gone, you Indian dog!"'

7. And the farmer felt very sorry, asked the Indian to forgive him, and went on his way a sadder and a wiser man.

So in this way the poor Indian illustrated the beautiful maxim which teaches us to do good for evil.

QUESTIONS.—1. When the farmer was standing at his door one evening, what did he see? 2. What did the Indian ask for? 3. Did he get it? 4. What did he ask for next? 5. What next? 6. What reply did he at last receive? 7. What happened to the farmer soon after? 8. What did he ask of the Indian in the hut? 9. What offer did the Indian make him? 10. What did the Indian give him to eat and drink? 11. What did he do for him in the morning? 12. At what point did the two stop? 13. What did the Indian say? 14. What answer did the farmer make? 15. What piece of advice did the Indian give the farmer? 16. What maxim did the Indian illustrate?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words:

Evening	Answered	Venison	Illustrated
Begged	Pursuit	Piece	Maxim

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in sections 2 and 3.
3. Add adjectives to the following nouns: *Water*; *dog*; *hut*; *wood*; *gun*; *advice*.
4. Add verbs to the following nouns: *Indian*; *farmer*; *rum*; *wolves*.
5. Explain the following phrases: (1) He refused. (2) He was in pursuit of game. (3) Lodge with me. (4) On parting I will tell you.

THE NORTHERN STAR.

The *Northern Star* was the name of a ship which sailed from Tynemouth for a port in the Baltic, and was believed to have gone down in that sea, for she was never more heard of. The following short poem (printed as prose) is supposed to be spoken by a lady who is wandering about in the court of Tynemouth Castle—now used as a graveyard—and thinking of the friend to whom she bade good-bye, and whom she will never see or hear of any more.

Bar, the shallow portion at the | Winged, with sails.
mouth of a river.

1. The *Northern Star* sailed over the bar,
bound to the Baltic Sea; in the morning gray she
stretch'd v—'twas a weary day to me!

2. For many an hour in sleet and shower by
the lighthouse rock I stray; and watch till dark
for the wingèd bark of him that is far away.
3. The castle's bound I wander round, amidst the
grassy graves: but all I hear is the north wind
drear, and all I see are the waves. 4. The
Northern Star is set afar! set in the Baltic
Sea; and the waves have spread the sandy bed
that holds my love from me.

QUESTIONS.—1. Where was the *Northern Star* bound for?
2. What bar did she cross? 3. Near what rock does the lady
stray? 4. What does she hear? 5. What does she see?
6. Where has the *Northern Star* set?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words:

Gray	Drear	Baltic
Lighthouse	Northern	Spread

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in verses 3 and 4.
3. Add adjectives to the following nouns: *Morning*; *rock*;
graves; *waves*.
4. Add verbs to the following nouns: *Ship*; *wind*; *waves*; *bed*.
5. Explain the following phrases: (1) The ship stretched away.
(2) The waves have spread a sandy bed for the sailor. (3) This
bed holds my love from me.

R I D D L E S.

In'tel'ect, power of thinking.	Judg'ment, good sense.
Ingenu'ity, power of seeing a way through difficult questions.	Considera'tion, power of weighing and comparing.
In'tricate, involved, or with many branches and turnings.	Replies', answers.
Prob'lem, difficult question.	Reflec'tion, power of looking justly at.
Decid'ed, made up one's mind.	Disposed', inclined.

1. When young people get together round the
fire on a winter's night, they are very fond of

telling tales, and puzzling each other with riddles. When puzzles are good ones, they exercise intellect and ingenuity in a very pleasant manner. A friend of mine will have it, that simple riddles are much better than those which are more intricate; for what is the use of asking a question, which not more than one in ten can find out? Nine out of ten must, in such a case, have more pain than pleasure. 2. Many of us may remember the riddles of our childish days. ‘Round the house, and round the house, and peeps through the keyhole,’ was one of the first of them, and happy was the little urchin who was able to solve the knotty problem. Then came, ‘Black and white, and red (read) all over;’ and after that followed, what has been a standing dish ever since: ‘Which is the left side of a round plum-pudding?’ We have all of us in our day been stuck fast by the inquiry, ‘Which is the heavier, a pound of lead, or a pound of feathers?’ and we have all of us decided in favour of the former.

3. Some time ago I was at a house, where a young party had assembled; a comical stranger was introduced, who made much amusement among the young people by the odd questions he proposed; but, odd as the questions were, they all had a tendency to exercise the judgment of the little group, as well as to make them cheerful. 4. The first was: ‘If two hundred eggs be put to two hundred oranges, how many oranges will there be altogether?’ ‘Four hundred!’ cried out half a dozen voices at the same time; but after a little con-

sideration, this answer was found out to be wrong, and a little boy with a little more judgment pointed out the mistake of his companions. 6. The next question was: 'Which can travel fastest—a man with only one sack of flour on his back, or a man with two sacks on his back?' Some said: 'The man with one sack of flour, to be sure;' some were silent; and one, more cunning than the rest, said that the man with the two sacks must win; for that two sacks were lighter than one sack of flour. 6. The third question was: 'If a joint of meat weighs twenty pounds when it has been roasted only one hour, what will it weigh when it has been roasted three hours?' Now the other questions had made the young folks more cautious in their replies, and set them a-thinking, so that only one cried out: 'Sixty pounds!' 'I tell you what, my young friend,' said the stranger to him, 'I have a notion that you would make a capital cook, and, when I set up housekeeping, I shall think of you.' 7. Another question was then put: 'If twenty bushels of apples cost thirty shillings, what should be given for a waggon-load of paving-stones?' The young folks looked at each other, not being able to make head or tail of the question; for no one could see what the apples could have to do with the paving-stones. The next puzzle, however, was so comical, that they could think of nothing else for some time. 8. 'A barrel of oysters,' said the stranger, 'a Turk's old turban, three pennyworth of stick liquorice, the British Museum, a pint and a half of filberts, a red-hot poker, an

ounce of pigtail tobacco, a one-legged magpie, and an old pair of broken bellows, all may be expressed by three letters!' There was a great deal of laughing at the odd compound, and he who found out the secret pronounced it to be a capital puzzle, though many of the others thought differently. The three letters were I N K, for there are very few things that cannot be expressed by ink. I cannot remember all the questions put by the stranger; but the last was certainly one of the most comical that I ever heard proposed. ^{9.} I thought at the time that it was asked only to call forth the ingenuity and reflection of the boys, and that no correct answer could be given, and I am rather disposed to retain that opinion still. It was as follows:

Three good fat ducks, three hogs, three frogs,
Three pints of English corn,
Three Polar bears, three hounds, three hares,
A fox and a goose forlorn;
Three cats, three rats, three bits of cheese,
Were all placed in one pen:
Now tell me masters, if you please,
How many came out again?

10. There was a general shout of mirth and astonishment at this question, and soon there were a dozen different opinions about it. One was aware that the rats might eat the cheese, and the cats eat the rats; another was certain that the poor goose would soon be killed and eaten by the fox, and that the ducks would gobble up the frogs in a twinkling. Then the hogs might not only eat the

corn, but perhaps the ducks too ; and many thought the Polar bears would eat them all. They laughed and talked for half an hour without coming to any regular decision, and thus ended as merry a meeting of young people as I can remember.

EXERCISES.—1. Learn to spell the following words :

Ingenuity	Exercise	Replies	Retain
Urchin	Judgment	Liquorice	Twinkling
Tendency	Cautious	Differently	Decision

2. Point out the nouns, adjectives, and verbs in paragraph 9.
3. Add verbs to the following nouns : *Man* ; *dog* ; *frog* ; *bear* ; *fox* ; *cat* ; *rat* ; *cheese*.
4. Make adjectives out of the following nouns : *Knot* ; *lead* ; *feather* ; *flour* ; *bear* ; *hog* ; *friend* ; *favour* ; *thought*.
5. Make nouns out of the following adjectives : *Black* ; *fat* ; *excellent* ; *odd* ; *hot* ; *young* ; *thoughtful* ; *strange* ; *different* ; *merry*.
6. Make nouns out of the following verbs : *Laugh* ; *look* ; *answer* ; *weigh* ; *amuse* ; *dispose* ; *judge* ; *remember* ; *consider* ; *arrive* ; *reflect* ; *decide* ; *tend*.
7. Explain the following phrases : (1) No one could solve the knotty problem. (2) After consideration he spoke. (3) I never heard a more comical question proposed. (4) They talked for half an hour without coming to any regular decision.

THE LITTLE MATCH-GIRL.

Project'ing, jutting out in front of.	De'corated, ornamented.
Benumbed', having lost all feeling.	Count'less, not to be numbered.
Transpar'ent, that can be seen through.	Ra'diance, bright light. Consumed', used up and spent.

1. It was dreadfully cold : it snowed, and was beginning to grow dark, and it was the last night of the year, too—New-year's Eve. In this cold

and darkness, a poor little girl was wandering about the streets with bare head and bare feet. She had slippers on when she left home, but what was the good of them? 2. They were very large, old slippers of her mother's—so large that they fell off the little girl's feet as she hurried across the street to escape two carriages, which came galloping along at a great rate. The one slipper was not to be found, and a boy ran off with the other.

3. So the little girl wandered about barefooted, with a quantity of matches in an old apron, whilst she held a bundle of them in her hand. No one had bought any matches of her through the whole livelong day—no one had given her a single farthing. Hungry, and pinched with cold, the poor little girl crept along, the large flakes of snow covering her yellow hair, which curled round her face; but it gave her no comfort to think of that.

4. In a corner between two houses, one projecting beyond the other, she sought shelter. Huddling herself up, she drew her poor little feet, which were red and blue with cold, under her as well as she could; but she was colder than ever, and dared not go home, for, as she had sold no matches, her cruel father would beat her. 5. Besides, it was cold at home, for they lived just under the roof, and the wind blew in, though straw and rags had been stuffed in the large cracks. Her little hands were quite benumbed with cold. Oh, how *much good* one match would do, if she dared but *take it out of the bundle, draw it across the wall,*

and warm her fingers in the flame! a. She drew one out—‘Ritsh!’ how it sputtered and burned! It burned with a warm, bright flame, like a candle, and she bent her hand round it: it was a wonderful light! It appeared to the little girl as if she were sitting before a large iron stove, in which the fire burned brightly, and gave out such comfort and such warmth. She stretched out her feet to warm them, too—but the flame went out, the stove disappeared, and there she sat with a little bit of the burnt-out match in her hand.

b. Another was lighted; it burned, and, where the light fell upon the wall, that became transparent, so that she could see into the room. There the table was covered with a cloth of dazzling white, and with fine china; and a roast goose was smoking most temptingly upon it. c. But what was still more delightful, the goose sprang down from the table, and, with a knife and fork sticking in its back, waddled towards the little girl. Then the match went out, and she saw nothing but the thick, cold wall.

d. She lighted another; and now she was sitting under the most splendid Christmas-tree. It was larger and more beautifully decorated than the one she had seen at Christmas through the window at the rich merchant’s. Hundreds of tapers were burning amongst the green branches, and painted pictures, such as she had seen in the shop-windows, looked down upon her. She stretched out both her hands, when the match was burnt out. e. The countless lights rose higher and higher, and she

now saw that they were the stars, one of which fell, leaving a long line of light in the sky.

‘Some one is dying now,’ the little girl said; for her old grandmother, who alone had loved her, but who was now dead, had told her that when a star fell, a soul took its flight up to heaven.

11. She drew another match across the wall, and in the light it threw around stood her old grandmother, so bright, so mild, and so loving.

‘Grandmother,’ the little girl cried, ‘oh, take me with you! I know that you will disappear as soon as the match is burnt out, just like the warm stove, the delicious roast goose, and the Christmas-tree!’

12. And hastily she lighted the rest of the matches that remained in the bundle, for she wished to keep her grandmother with her as long as possible; and the matches burned so brightly, that it was lighter than day. Never before had her grandmother appeared so beautiful and so tall, and, taking the little girl in her arms, in radiance and joy they flew high, high up into the heavens, where she felt neither cold, nor hunger, nor fear, any more—for they were with God!

13. But, in the corner between the two houses, in the cold morning air, lay the little girl with pale cheeks and smiling lips. She was frozen to death during the last night of the Old Year. The first light of the New Year shone upon the dead body of the little girl, sitting there with the matches, one bundle of which was nearly consumed. ‘She has been trying to warm herself,’ people said; but no one knew what visions she had had, or with

what splendour she had entered with her grandmother into the joys of a New Year.

H. C. Andersen.

QUESTIONS.—1. What kind of weather was it when the little match-girl was out? 2. What time of the year was it? 3. What had she had on her feet? 4. How had she lost them? 5. What had she in her apron? 6. How many bundles of matches had she sold? 7. Where did she seek shelter? 8. How did she feel? 9. Why did she not go home? 10. Why else? 11. What did she do with one of the matches? 12. What did she think she saw? 13. When she lighted another, what did she see? 14. What did the roast goose do? 15. When she lighted another, what did she see? 16. When she lighted still another, whom did she see? 17. What did she do with the other matches in the bundle? 18. Why did she light so many? 19. Where did her grandmother take her? 20. What did the people passing by find next morning? 21. What did they say?

EXERCISES.—1. Learn the spelling of the following words:

Beginning	Benumbed	Decorated
Galloping	Disappeared	Remained
Huddling	Beautifully	Radiance

2. Select the nouns, adjectives, and verbs from paragraph 10.
3. Add adjectives to the following nouns: *Girl; slippers; carriage; boy; apron; matches.*
4. Add verbs to the following nouns: *Girl; father; grandmother; wind; goose; match.*
5. Turn the following adjectives into nouns: *Dark; heavy; angry; good; long; great.*
6. Explain the following phrases: (1) It was New-year's Eve. (2) The one house projected beyond the other. (3) Her hands were benumbed with cold. (4) The Christmas-tree was beautifully decorated.



A NARROW ESCAPE.

Trag'ical, fatal or deadly.	Knout, a heavy whip, under which sufferers have sometimes died.
August', to be highly reverenced (only applied to kings and emperors).	Profound', deep.
Communicated, told.	Assass'inate, murder.
Bel'eff (a trisyllable).	Renounce', give up.
For'midable, to be greatly feared.	Repair'ing, going.
Maintained', kept up.	Anal'ogy, likeness.
Urban'ity, civility.	Per'emtory, requiring <i>immediate</i> execution.
Dol'orous, sad.	Emphatic, full of stress.
Assume', put on.	Gravity, seriousness.
Nat'urallised, taken under the laws and into the privileges of his new country.	Vic� (a Latin word), in the place of.
Calum'niated, spoken ill of.	

1. The death of the famous dog Sutherland—so named after the Englishman who had made a gift of him to the Empress Catharine II. of Russia—nearly caused a tragical mistake, in so far as it nearly cost the donor, a celebrated banker, his life. The occurrence took place at St Petersburg.

2. One morning, at daybreak, Mr Sutherland, the gentleman who had presented the dog to the Empress, and who was consequently a favourite with that august personage—was suddenly awakened by his man-servant.

‘Sir,’ said the footman, ‘your house is surrounded with guards, and the chief of the police demands to speak to you.’

a. ‘What does he want with me?’ exclaimed the banker, as he leaped from his bed, somewhat startled by this announcement.

‘I do not know, sir,’ answered the footman; ‘but

it appears that it is a matter of the highest importance, and that it can only be communicated to you personally.'

'Shew him in,' said Mr Sutherland, as he hastily donned his dressing-gown.

4. The footman closed the door, left, and returned some minutes afterwards with His Excellency Mr Relieff, upon whose face the banker read at the first glance some formidable intelligence. The worthy banker, however, maintained his calmness, and welcoming the chief of police with his usual urbanity, presented him with a seat.

5. His Excellency, however, remained standing, and in a tone the most dolorous which it was possible to assume, said :

'Mr Sutherland, believe me when I assure you that I am truly grieved to have been chosen by Her Majesty, my very gracious sovereign, to carry out an order, the severity of which afflicts me; but which has without doubt been provoked by some great crime.'

6. 'By some great crime, Your Excellency!' exclaimed the banker. 'And who then has committed this crime?'

'You, doubtless, sir, since it is upon you that the punishment is to fall.'

'Sir, I swear to you that I know not of any reproach with which to charge myself as a subject of our sovereign; for I am a naturalised Russian, as you must know.'

'And it is precisely, sir, because you are a naturalised Russian that your position is terrible.'

If you had remained a subject of His Britannic Majesty, you would have been able to call in the aid of the English consul, and escape thus perhaps the rigour of the order which I am, to my very great regret, charged to execute.'

7. 'Tell me then, Your Excellency, what is this order ?'

'O sir, never shall I have the strength to make it known to you.'

'Have I lost the good graces of Her Majesty ?'

'Oh, if it were only that !'

'Is it a question to force me to leave at once for England ?'

'O no ; even that must not be.'

8. 'Sir ! you terrify me. Have you, then, an order to send me to Siberia ?'

'Siberia, sir, is a fine country, but it has been much calumniated. Besides, people return from it.'

'Am I condemned to prison ?'

'The prison is nothing. Prisoners come out of prison.'

'Sir, sir !' cried the banker, more and more shaken with terror, 'am I destined to the knout ?'

'The knout is a punishment very grievous ; but the knout does not kill.'

'Miserable fate !' said Sutherland, terrified. 'I see indeed that it is a matter of death.'

9. 'And what a death !' exclaimed the master of the police, whilst he solemnly raised his eyes with an expression of the most profound pity.

'How ! what a death ! Is it not enough to kill

me without trial, to assassinate me without cause ? Catharine orders, yet'—

'Alas ! yes, she orders'—

'Well, speak, sir ! What does she order ? I am a man ; I have courage. Speak !'

'Alas ! my dear sir, she orders—— If it had not been by herself that the command had been given, I declare to you, my dear Mr Sutherland, that I would not have believed it.'

'But you make me die a thousand times. Let me know, sir, what has she ordered you to do ?'

'She has ordered me to have you STUFFED !'

10. The poor banker uttered a cry of distress ; then looking the chief of police in the face, said : 'But, Your Excellency, it is monstrous what you say to me ; you must have lost your reason.'

'No, sir ; I have not lost my reason ; but I shall certainly lose it during the operation.'

'But how have you—you who have said you are my friend a hundred times—you, in short, to whom I have had the honour to render certain services—how have you, I say, received such an order without endeavouring to represent the barbarity of it to Her Majesty ?'

11. 'Alas ! sir, I have done what I could, and certainly what no one would have dared to do in my place. I besought Her Majesty to renounce her design, or at least to charge another than myself with the execution of it ; and that with tears in my eyes. But Her Majesty said to me with that voice which you know well, and which does not admit of a reply : "Go, sir, and do not forget that it

is your duty to acquit yourself without a murmur of the commissions with which I charge you.”’

12. ‘And then?’

‘Then,’ said the master of the police, ‘I lost no time in repairing to a very clever naturalist who stuffs animals for the Academy of Sciences; for, in short, since there was no alternative, I deemed it only proper, and out of respect for your feelings, that you should be stuffed in the best manner possible.’

13. ‘And the wretch has consented?’

‘He referred me to his colleague, who stuffs apes, and who has studied the analogy between the human species and the monkey tribe.’

‘Well?’

‘Well, sir, he awaits you.’

‘How! he awaits me! But is the order so peremptory?’

‘Not an instant must be lost, my dear sir; the order of Her Majesty does not admit of delay.’

14. ‘Without granting me time to put my affairs in order? But it is impossible!’

‘Alas! it is but too true, sir.’

‘But you will allow me first to write a letter to the Empress?’

‘I know not if I ought; my instructions were very emphatic.’

‘Listen! It is a last favour, a favour which is not refused to the greatest culprit. I entreat it of you.’

‘But it is my situation which I risk.’

‘And it is my life which is at stake.’

'Well, write; I permit it. However, I must inform you that I cannot leave you a single instant.'

'Thanks, thanks. Pray, request one of your officers to come, that he may convey my letter.'

15. The chief of police called a lieutenant of the Royal Guards, delivered to him the letter of poor Sutherland, and ordered him to bring back an answer to it immediately. Ten minutes afterwards, the lieutenant returned with an order to bring the banker to the imperial palace. It was all that the sufferer desired.

16. A carriage stood at the gate. Mr Sutherland entered it, and the lieutenant seated himself beside him. Five minutes afterwards they were at the palace, where Catharine waited. They introduced the condemned man to her presence, and found Her Majesty in convulsions of laughter.

17. It was for Sutherland now to believe her mad. He threw himself at her feet, and seizing her hand in his, exclaimed: 'Mercy, madame! In the name of heaven, have mercy on me; or at the least tell me for what crime I have deserved a punishment so horrible.'

'But my dear Mr Sutherland,' replied Catharine with all the gravity she could command, 'this matter does not concern you at all!'

'How, Your Majesty, is it not a matter concerning me? Then whom *does* it concern?'

18. 'Why, the dog of course that you gave me. He died yesterday of indigestion. Then in my grief at this loss, and in my very natural desire to preserve at least his skin, I ordered that goose

Relieff to come to me, and said to him: "Mr Relieff, I have to request that you will have Sutherland immediately stuffed." As he hesitated, I thought that he was ashamed of such a commission; whereupon I became angry and dismissed him on his errand.'

19. 'Well, madame,' answered the banker, 'you can boast that you have in the head of the police a faithful servant; but at another time, I earnestly entreat of you, explain better to him the orders which he receives.'

The four-footed Sutherland was duly promoted to a glass case *vice* the banker—relieved.

Alexander Dumas.



